

ILLUSTRATED TIMES

(THE RIGHT OF TRANSLATION AND REPRODUCING ILLUSTRATIONS IS RESERVED.)

DOUBLE NUMBER.]

THE COUP D'ETAT IN MADRID.

ACCORDING to Proudhon, the Revolution (like the cholera) is always at work in some part of the globe. Driven out of Italy, it may take refuge in France, or expelled from France it may pay a visit to Germany; but it is always to be found somewhere or other. Occasionally it forsakes Europe altogether, and goes over to Mexico, or, as was the case not long since, makes a tour to China. But it is an active principle which cannot be extirpated, and there is no place to which it will not penetrate at a fitting opportunity.

After taking leave of France for a longer period than was originally expected, it made preparations for entering Spain, where, in the first instance, it met with an enthusiastic reception. During the last fortnight it has received notice of ejection from the Peninsula; and although there is another peninsula which, thanks to Austria and King Bomba, will probably welcome it before long, it must say good-bye to Spain for the present, leaving it, as is too often the case, in rather a worse position than that in which it found it. The revolution has failed in Spain, or rather it has been completed, in the strict etymological sense of the word: things have been turned completely round, and are now in the same odious state as when the necessity for change was first felt. Spanish liberty is now at the mercy of Marshal O'Donnell, who is not likely to temper his bayonets to it in a very remarkable manner.

Probably the majority of newspaper readers have no very clear ideas as to the exact state of affairs in Madrid at the present moment beyond the fact, that Espartero, the representative of liberal opinions, is powerless—that all authority is in the hands of O'Donnell, the representative of despotism—and that the principle of constitutionalism, which a short time since appeared to be at its zenith, is now at its nadir.

How far the French Emperor may have been concerned in what has taken place, we will not at this moment consider. It appears that the news of the investment of Madrid, by Marshal O'Donnell, took him quite by surprise, while he was at Plombières. If he hastened to order off a regiment of carbineers to Narbonne, he did so because this regiment was unable to agree with the regiments of the Imperial Guard, who were in garrison with it at Versailles, and because he considered it expedient to place the rival corps as far as possible apart. If, as the Paris correspondent of the "Daily

LONDON, SATURDAY, JULY 26, 1856.

News" affirms, an army has also been ordered to the Spanish frontier, it has, doubtless, only been sent there in order to form a cordon to prevent the Spanish liberals, and "enemies of order" in general, from entering the happy empire of France. It requires such a large number of soldiers to ensure such a small amount of security in a country governed upon Napoleonic principles!

If the French Emperor, however, has not assisted O'Donnell in an active and direct manner, the Marshal is certainly indebted to him for the famous example of the Second of December. The Spanish *coup d'état* has not only been executed on the exact model of the great French original, but its author has even adopted the very same pleas in justification of the measure. Justification is, perhaps, not the word we should use, for Marshal O'Donnell, of course, sees nothing in his conduct to justify. He has performed a simple act of virtue in defence of "the throne and order." However, as the most thorough man of action sometimes finds it necessary to say a few words, so that his conduct may not be liable to misrepresentation, Marshal O'Donnell has published in the Spanish official journal a long account of the circumstances under which he felt it necessary to attack the inhabitants of Madrid with eighteen thousand men and sixty pieces of artillery.

Of course, none of our readers who have paid the least attention to the politics of despotisms can be unaware that this sort of thing is always done in the interest of "order." The amount of canonading and bayonetting that "order" requires is something fearful, so much so that many nations would be contented to have a little less "order" for the sake of having a great deal less bloodshed. We hope the next political dictionary that appears will give us a proper definition of "order," as it is understood by the disciples of Napoleon III. To establish order in a country, if we are to judge by the mode of proceeding adopted by the great master, it is necessary, in the first place, that the country should be in a state of perfect tranquillity. Its capital city should then be invested with an imposing military force, some of the most eminent men which the nation possesses being previously arrested and thrown into prison. If the representatives of the people assemble with the view of inquiring into the meaning of this investment and these arrests, they must be dispersed—if necessary, at the point of the bayonet. All who object to these proceed-

ings as contrary to the national constitution and laws are insurgents, and the natural fate of insurgents is to be shot down or bayoneted. When a sufficient number of the insurgents have been disposed of, and the remainder have been taught that they are powerless against musketry and artillery, then order has been restored.

Marshal O'Donnell has acted up to the programme of the French Emperor in the most conscientious manner.

Louis Napoleon assumed the government of France, because he could not prevail upon himself to leave it in a state of anarchy.

Marshal O'Donnell was "penetrated with the necessity of not leaving the nation without a Government, in the grave circumstances in which the late Minister had resigned." And, further on, we find him speaking of the state of siege as "the action of military justice applied by the imperious law of necessity."

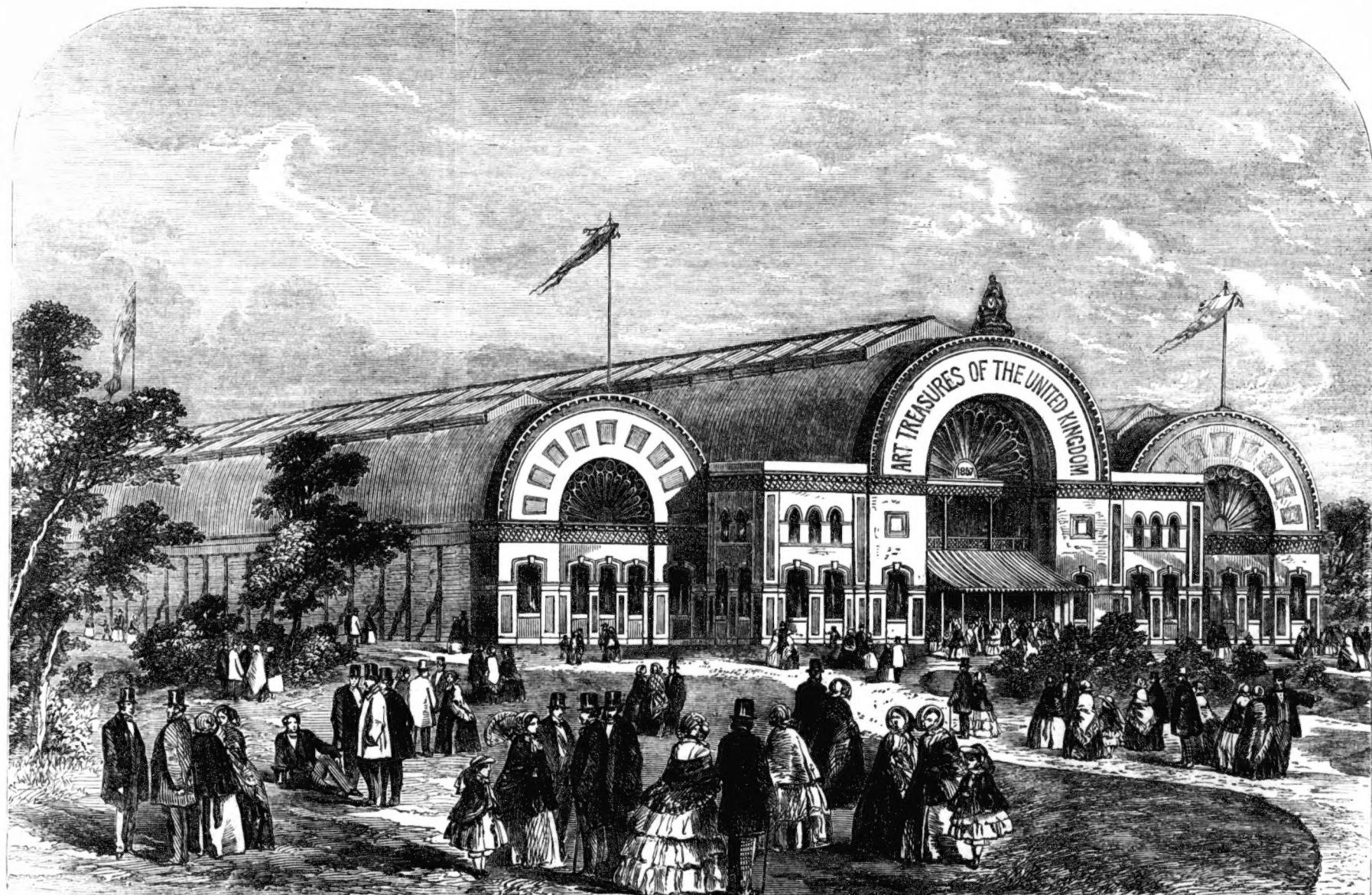
Louis Napoleon declared he had a mission to perform as "regenerator of society."

Marshal O'Donnell intimates his intention to "re-establish political and social discipline, preserve public peace, and consolidate material order."

Louis Napoleon laid especial stress on the necessity of crushing the Liberal party, whom he termed the "enemies of order."

Marshal O'Donnell states that "the crisis calls for a just and efficient repression of all the elements which agitate in the depth, or walk on the surface, of society."

But the parallel between the proceedings of Napoleon III. and those of his plagiary, O'Donnell, does not end yet. We pass over such minor details as O'Donnell's ungrateful behaviour to Espartero (although here again we might say that the Marshal was imitating his French model, several of whose victims had befriended him while he was an exile from his native land)—and come to the curious fact of his attempting to mislead the country by publishing, among the list of his supporters, men who had always been opposed to him, and who, in fact, could not have joined him without disgracing themselves. This especially was one of the French Emperor's manoeuvres. Among the names of many of his present satellites, the "Prince-President" published those of several distinguished and honourable members of the Royalist party, asserting that they had at once signified their adhesion.



VIEW OF THE BUILDING FOR THE PROPOSED EXHIBITION OF ART TREASURES AT MANCHESTER.

The present state of Spain is as follows, according to the placards issued by O'Donnell:—

"Tranquillity is restored." That is to say, the population of Madrid have been shot down in thousands, and are physically, as well as morally, incapable of moving.

"The empire of the law has been re-established." That is to say, Spain is in a state of siege.

"The National Guard has been re-organised." That is to say, it has been disarmed.

The factious minority of the deputies have determined to dissolve." That is to say, the Cortes have been dissolved by force. In the words of the proclamation published at Saragossa, "O'Donnell has not hesitated to shed the blood of the people, to substitute his arbitrary power for the national sovereignty."

The latest intelligence contains the news that the provinces are discontinuing their opposition to the government of the capital; but however this may be, it is certain that the struggle between liberalism and despotism in Spain cannot long be postponed. In this juncture everyone is asking what France will do? "What will the French Emperor do?" would be the more reasonable question, for France at present does nothing. It is stated that Napoleon will only interfere in case, though no matter under what circumstances, the Duchess de Montpensier's accession to the throne should become imminent, or in the event of a Republic being declared—for Napoleon is known to have a special mission for "putting down" Republics wherever they make their appearance. One thing is certain—when civil war commences, and it may even now have broken out, Napoleon III. will be sure to take the unpopular side. The man who crushed liberty in Italy, will be certain to favour tyranny in Spain.

Imperial Parliament.

FRIDAY, JULY 18

HOUSE OF LORDS.

ARCTIC EXPEDITIONS.

Lord WROTHESLEY asked if the Government intended to send out another Arctic expedition in search of Sir John Franklin, and expressed an opinion that such an expedition, recommended as it had been by a memorial numerously signed by scientific men, would be a proper object for the attention of the Government.

Lord STANLEY of ALDERLEY replied that it was not at present the intention of the Government to send out another expedition to the Arctic regions. The Government would consider the matter during the recess, but now that all hope of saving life was over as regarded Sir John Franklin and his companions, the advocates of a fresh expedition must remember the heavy responsibility which would rest on those who sent it out.

THE CHELSEA INQUIRY.

Lord LUCAN moved an address to the Crown for a copy of the report of the Chelsea Board of Inquiry, and, in a speech of considerable length, defended himself, and accused the Judge-Advocate of partiality.

Lord PANMURE resisted the motion as unreasonable. The report would be laid before the House on Monday next. Nothing could be more unfounded than the charge of political partiality brought against the Judge-Advocate.

After some discussion, the motion was withdrawn.

The Encumbered Estates (Ireland) Bill was passed.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

THE FOREIGN LEGION.

To certain questions put by Colonel Gilpin and Sir De Lacy Evans as to the intentions of the Government with respect to the Foreign Legion.

Lord PALMERSTON returned a curt reply, protesting against the practice, which he observed, was growing up, of asking what were the intentions of Government as to this or that matter. The Government, he added, were answerable for what they did, but were not to be interrogated as to what they were going to do.

THE CIVIL SERVICE.

On the order for going into committee upon the Civil Service Superannuation Bill, several Members on both sides of the House having urged the Government to withdraw the bill,

The CHANCELLOR OF THE EXCHEQUER observed that it would be improper in his part to force its consideration upon the House if it was thought desirable that it should be postponed, and he moved that the order be discharged.

Sir F. BARING suggested that, in the meantime, an endeavour should be made to ascertain what was the truth with regard to the deduction—whether the civil servants were or were not under a false impression upon the subject.

The order was ultimately discharged.

HAMPSTEAD HEATH.

The House went into committee upon the Leases and Sales of Settled Estates Bill, the clauses in which were agreed to.

A new clause was moved by Mr. HADFIELD, prohibiting the Court of Chancery from granting any application under the act in any case when the applicant or any party entitled under the same settlement has previously applied to either House of Parliament for a private act to effect the same or a similar object, and has not obtained such act. This clause was opposed mainly on the ground that it was aimed at an individual—namely, Sir Thomas M. Wilson.

Upon a division, the numbers in favour of the clause were 84, and against it 42.

The SOLICITOR-GENERAL moved to amend the clause by substituting for "has not obtained such act" the words "such application has been rejected on its merits, or reported against by the Judges to whom it has been referred." This amendment was agreed to, and the clause was added to the bill.

The House then went into committee upon the Vice-President of Committee of Council on Education Bill. A motion by Sir G. Grey to allot to the Vice-President a salary not exceeding £2,000 a year gave rise to much debate, and Mr. Thorneby moved to substitute £1,200. Upon a division, the larger sum was carried by 78 to 47.

The Income and Land Taxes Bill was passed.

MONDAY, JULY 21.

HOUSE OF LORDS.

THE IRISH MILITIA.

Lord PANMURE, in reply to Lord Dungannon, stated that he had received no information as to certain circumstances of hardship which were said to have attended the disembodiment of the City of Limerick Militia and the Mayo Rifles. The Noble Lord, added, in answer to Lord Ellenborough, that steps were being taken for the disembodiment of the Foreign Legions.

A BRAZILIAN DIFFICULTY.

The Earl of MALMESBURY called the attention of the House to the dispute which had arisen between the British Government and Brazil, owing to the un courteous behaviour of our Minister at Rio, on a matter arising out of the slave trade. The Noble Lord concluded by moving for papers connected with the affair.

Lord CLarendon explained the circumstances of the case, which had arisen from an apprehension justly entertained by the British Minister at Rio, that great preparations were being made for the extension of the slave trade in Brazil. The Government had thought it to be their duty to support its agent abroad; but he was happy to think that, after the mutual explanations which had been given, the Brazilian Government harboured no ill-will against the Government of this country.

After some observations from Lords Aberdeen and Malmesbury, the motion (for papers) was agreed to.

DESTRUCTION OF THE FORTRESSES OF REKI AND ISMAIL.

Lord Malmesbury asked Lord Clarendon whether it was true that the fortresses of Reki and Ismail had been dismantled by the Russians, whether any other fortresses would be erected on that river; and when the new Russian Minister might be expected to arrive in this country.

Lord Clarendon replied he had no doubt that the fortresses in question had been dismantled, the Russians conceiving that they had a right to treat them as they chose up to the time of handing them over to the Turks. With respect to the arrival of a new Russian Minister, information only had been received that Count Czerny had been appointed to the Russian Legation in this country.

The Lord CHANCELLOR called the attention of the House to the Statute Law Commission, and gave a summary of its labours during the past year.

RESIGNATION OF THE BISHOPS.

On the order of the day being read for the third reading of the Bishops' Resignation Bill, Lord ROLLESDALE renewed his opposition to the measure, and moved that it be read a third time that day three months.

A smart discussion then arose as to the negotiations which had led to the resignation of the Bishops of London and Durham, which the opponents of the bill asserted savoured of simony.

The bill was ultimately read a third time on a division, in which the numbers were, for the bill 26; against it 15. Some other business was then despatched and their Lordships adjourned.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

THE INDIAN PETITIONERS.

In the House of Commons, the report from the committee on the revision of standing orders having been brought up, on the motion of Mr. Patten a resolution was adopted to the effect that the House would not receive any petition, or proceed upon any motion involving a charge upon the revenues of India, without the sanction of the Crown.

THE ALDERSHOT DISTRICTS.

Mr. MURROUGH, on a motion for adjournment, proceeded to enter into a statement respecting the recent disturbance at Aldershot, but was interrupted by repeated calls to order, which were enforced by the Speaker, and at length Mr. Murrough desisted.

Lord PALMERSTON, briefly replying to the subject opened by the Hon. Member, stated that the conduct of the German Legion had in general been wholly unexceptionable. No detailed information respecting the affair alluded to had as yet been received by the Government.

THE CRIMEAN INQUIRY.

Mr. C. P. VILLEIERS having brought up the report of the Chelsea Board of Commissioners alluded to an extraordinary charge which, he said, had been made against himself by a Noble Lord in another place. He had been accused of wilfully delaying the production of this report for the purpose of serving the objects of the War Minister. This allegation he declared to be an unmerited untruth, adding that he had nothing to do either with the preparation or presentation of the document, and could not therefore have delayed its appearance. Mr. Villiers, in reply to some further charges from the same quarter, utterly denied that he had been influenced during the late investigation in the slightest degree by personal or party bias.

General PEEL, having been a Member of the Board, expressed his belief that the charges in question were unfair and unfounded.

AFFAIRS OF INDIA.

The House went into committee upon the East India Revenue Accounts, when Mr. V. SMITH made the annual statement with reference to those revenues to about thirty members. On the head of revenue, he explained that the balance sheet of income and expenditure had shown a deficit of two million sterling in the financial year 1853-4; of one million in 1854-5; and was expected to show a deficiency of one and a half million for the twelve months now current. This result, however, was attributable to the large expenditure incurred for public works, which would be, he believed, in the end amply repaid their cost. Showing ground for some hope that the income derived from India would gradually improve, he stated that no means of retrenching the outlay on the army appeared feasible; but he expected, while preserving vested interests intact, to effect some saving in the salaries of the civil servants of the empire. He then adverted to the internal condition of the country, which he declared to be tranquil, and on the whole prosperous, proceeding to describe the measures that had been taken for the establishment of a more efficient system of police, and congratulating the House on the effectual suppression of the practice of torture as inflicted on the natives for the purpose of collecting the taxes. Mr. V. Smith then entered into voluminous details respecting the annexation of Oude, the internal administration of India, the progress of public works, and the success effected towards the development of education and commerce throughout the different provinces of the Indian Empire.

This statement was followed by a discussion, involving a wide range of topics connected with various branches of Indian government, and maintained by Sir E. Perry, Mr. Headlam, Mr. Lowe, Mr. Ousey, Mr. Daubly Seymour, Mr. I. Butt, Mr. R. Mangles, and other members.

The House then recessed.

The Bishops of London and Durham Retirement Bill was brought down from the Lords, and read a first time.

Mr. DISRAELI gave notice of his intention, before the prorogation of Parliament, to review the conduct of the Government with respect to the management of public business in that House.

On the suggestion of Lord Palmerston, Friday was appointed for this purpose.

TUESDAY, JULY 22.

HOUSE OF LORDS.

THE CRIMEAN REPORT.

Lord LUCAN returned to the charges which he had made against the Judge-Advocate-General, and, having stated them at length, advised their inunction to be more cautious in his language.

Lord PANMURE retorted on Lord LUCAN the advice that Noble Lord had given to the Judge-Advocate-General. Without wishing to enter into a controversy carried on between members of either House of Parliament, he declared that the Noble Lord must not be surprised if an officer of the Crown should vindicate himself when attacked.

The matter then dropped.

The Consolidated Fund Appropriation Bill passed through committee, when Lord MONTFORD seized the opportunity to call the attention of the House to certain circumstances connected with the finances of the country.

The Consigntion Bill also passed through committee, when Lord ELLERBOUGH said he was glad to hear that the Government had other measures in preparation, for this bill taken by itself would not secure that improvement in the service which was essential.

Several other bills were forwarded a stage.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

THE COUNTY COURTS.

In the House of Commons, at the morning sitting, on the order for the third reading of the County Courts' Acts Amendment Bill.

Mr. GLADSTONE said he retained a strong opinion as to the precipitancy of this measure, and he inquired whether during the recess the Government were disposed to make any inquiry into the judicial establishment in Westminster Hall—whether it was not more than adequate to the purposes required of it.

Sir G. GREY declined to give any opinion as to whether it was practicable to reduce the number of Judges in Westminster Hall; but he believed it was a mistake to suppose that there had been any diminution of business in the superior courts since the establishment of the County Courts.

A discussion arose on an amendment made in the clause giving compensation to retiring clerks, which had been raised from one-fourth to one-third of their salaries, without notice, and upon this ground the amendment was carried.

EDUCATION.

On the order for the third reading of the Vice-President of the Committee of Council on Education Bill.

Mr. HENLEY objected to the introduction of another paid officer into the House, and moved to defer the third reading for three months.

Mr. GLADSTONE supported this objection, and observed that they were going to give a bad constitution to the educational department. He thought they ought to know what duty this officer would have to discharge when not attending in Parliament. There was no standing business to justify the appointment of such an official. In his opinion, it would have been much better to appoint a joint secretary.

Sir G. GREY defended the measure. The Government, he said, were pressed to place the administration of the educational funds under the superintendence of one Minister, and to have the department of education represented in that House; this measure was therefore intended to meet what was understood to be the general wish of the House.

After a discussion, in which Mr. NAPIER, Mr. H. VENON, Mr. HADFIELD, Mr. HEYWOOD, and Sir J. GRAHAM took part, the House divided, when the third reading was carried by 77 against 35.

THE CRAMPTON CASE.

Mr. M. GIBSON inquired whether His Majesty's advisers contemplated the early appointment of a Minister from England to the United States.

Lord PALMERSTON replied that they had come to no decision upon the subject.

REVISION OF THE ENGLISH VERSION OF THE SCRIPTURES.

Mr. HEYWOOD moved an address to the Crown for the appointment of a Royal Commission, consisting of learned men well skilled in the original languages of the Holy Scriptures, and conversant with modern Biblical scholarship, to consider of such amendments of the authorised version of the Bible as have been already proposed, and to receive suggestions from all persons who may be willing to offer them, and to report the amendments they may recommend. He assigned various reasons, including the fluctuations of the vernacular tongue, for believing that the authorised version of the Bible did not represent the original text in an accurate form. He cited passages in which, he contended, the sense had been incorrectly rendered.

Sir G. GREY opposed the motion, thinking as Mr. Heywood had admitted, that the House would do wrong to move in the matter without being urged by public opinion, and he believed that, so far from there being a desire for such an inquiry, it would create great alarm. The authorised version of the Scriptures was, in his opinion, entitled to respect and reverence.

Mr. HEYWOOD withdrew his motion.

MOTION TO SHORTEN THE DEBATES.

Mr. WILKINSON moved a resolution, "That, except upon the introduction of a measure to the House, no member do speak for more than half an hour at one time upon the same question, nor upon any occasion for more than one hour." He urged the House to consider the amount of time wasted in tedious speeches, and stated that there were 273 members who never spoke at all, and 209 who never exceeded half an hour; so that the monopoly of speaking was confined to a very few members.

Lord PALMERSTON said, in the abstract, the object which Mr. Wilkinson had in view, that of shortening the debates in the House and increasing the amount of real business done, must meet the assent of every member; but he did not think the particular method proposed, which would abridge the liberty of speech, and might be attended with great practical inconvenience, was one he could recommend the House to adopt. He believed that, generally, members were not chargeable with abuse of speaking, and that there had been much improvement in the respect of late years, there being a sort of control exerted by members who heard over those who spoke. There were subjects, however, upon

which members should be allowed to go fully into the matter, and any restriction of this kind would very materially impede the enlightenment of the House upon those subjects.

After some remarks by Mr. M. MILNES, Mr. W. BIGGS, and Mr. FOX, who thought the evil might be mitigated if the leaders on both sides of the House changed their habit of speaking at the end of the debate, the House divided, when the motion was negatived by 57 to 30.

SPANISH DISTRICTS.

Sir J. FITZGERALD rose to submit the claims of certain of his Majesty's subjects on the Spanish Government for an honourable settlement of the Spanish Committee Certificate of Comon not funded; and he moved a resolution affirming the justice of those claims.

Lord PALMERSTON concurred with Sir J. Fitzgerald in opinion that the course pursued by the Spanish Cortes and Government in regard to these claims was quite in variance with the principles of justice and good faith. But the law having been advanced at the discretion and on the responsibility of private persons, the British Government being no party, its offices were limited to friendly representations, which were accordingly made, but without success. Under these circumstances he thought Sir John would exercise a sound discretion in not pressing his motion to a division.

The motion was withdrawn.

GENERAL BEATSON.

Mr. ROXBURGH moved a resolution, "That the Under-Secretary for War having admitted that, upon anonymous information, a secret inquiry had been ordered into the conduct of a general officer, this House feels itself bound to express its disapprobation of such a proceeding." He referred to an answer given recently by Mr. F. Peel to a question put by Colonel Dunne respecting General Beatson, whose services and treatment at the War Office was enlarged—and appended to the House, as a body of English gentlemen to protest a gallant soldier, asking whether the War Office was to be made a lion's mouth to receive anonymous charges against British officers.

Mr. F. Peel said he thought he must have been misreported in being made to say that General Vivian had acted, in regard to this matter, upon anonymous information. The imputation upon which General Vivian acted was derived from a source upon which he was justified in placing reliance. He gave copious details respecting the charges against General Beatson, and in vindication of the course of proceeding by General Vivian and by the War Department in relation to them.

Mr. I. Butt considered General Beatson to be an ill-used man, and his position a cruel one. These charges, based upon information not even now disclosed to him, had been allowed to hang over him for five months without a trial, or a decision that the charges were unfounded.

Colonel FENWICK put it to Lord Palmerston whether it was not due to the character of General Beatson to declare that the charges were false.

Lord PALMERSTON recommended General Beatson and his friends to wait until the Assize-coule could satisfy itself whether there be sufficient ground to lay a charge against him, or that the investigation which had taken place cleared him from imputation.

After some observations by Mr. Cobden, the House divided, when the motion was negatived by 71 to 23.

THE RETIRING BISHOPS.

Lord PALMERSTON, in moving the second reading of the Bishops of London and Durham Retirement Bill, said he had intended to submit to Parliament a general measure, founded upon an analogy with the case of judges, to enable bishops who wished to retire, or who were disabled by infirmity, to resign upon pensions; but in the meantime he received a communication from the Bishops of London and Durham, indicating their desire to retire owing to infirmity, and thereupon the Government had thought the proper course was to frame a bill limited to their particular cases, and there were circumstances relating to those cases which rendered it necessary that they should be specially provided for. The measure, he observed, had been unanticipated by the bishops to resign, and held out inducements, in order to have an opportunity of making fresh appointments. There had been, he said, nothing of the kind, the offers had been spontaneous or terms. Simony implied some secret transaction between the person resigning and the patron of the preferment, but nothing could be more fair and open than this transaction. Other methods of proceeding had been suggested. Some were of opinion that another bishop might perform the duties of the diocese, but that arrangement was one which he thought Parliament would not be disposed to adopt; others recommended that conjutor bishops should be appointed, but that proposition he considered exceedingly objectionable.

Mr. HENLEY, observing that the bill had not yet been delivered to Members, moved that the debate be adjourned.

Mr. GLADSTONE seconded this motion, and Lord PALMERSTON consented to the postponement.

The Leases and Sales of Settled Estates Bill was read a third time.

WEDNESDAY, JULY 23.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

The Speaker took the chair at a quarter past twelve o'clock.

MR. KINSALE AND THE JUDGE-ADVOCATE-GENERAL.

Mr. KINSALE asked whether it was likely the report of the Board of Inquiry at Chelsea would be in the hands of Hon. Members before the prorogation of Parliament?

Mr. VILLEIERS said he had every reason to believe the report would be in the hands of Hon. Members before that time, and he should therefore forbear continuing a controversy which a Noble Lord in another place had originated and seemed disposed to continue. The report would shortly be in the hands of Hon. Members and before the public, when they would have an opportunity of judging whether he had stated anything incorrect with respect to the inquiry or to the evidence. They would then see whether a solitary case of personal animadversion by the Commissioners was satisfied by the evidence, and whether the inquiry with regard to it was or was not complete. He was convinced a friend of the Noble Lord's in that House would convey to him what passed there, and if he did so, he hoped he would tell the Noble Lord from him, that he treated with the utmost indifference his personalities.

Colonel FENWICK said that he considered the explanation of the Noble Lord in another place perfectly satisfactory. The Noble Lord there denied that he had said anything offensive to the Right Hon. Gentleman, and furthermore that he never meant to have done so.

The motion for the second reading of the Grand Juries, &c., (Ireland) Bill was withdrawn, and the order for the second reading of the Poor-Law (Ireland) Bill was discharged.

BISHOPS OF LONDON AND DURHAM RETIREMENT BILL.

On the resumption of the debate on this bill, Sir W. HEATHCOTE said that, in the unavoidable absence of the Right Hon. Gentleman the Member for Oxfordshire, he intended to move the motion of the House to push the bill at that period of the session; and if there was no other objection to be urged against its progress, it was the want of time to properly consider a measure that would be of the utmost importance in its immediate application to the Church, and the consequences

tion stipulated to be paid upon its value. In making these proposals, the two Bishops appeared to have had that in view. They felt there was a legal obstacle to such an arrangement as this, for they both used the same remarkable expression, "if the law allows it." At this time there were two other prelates in the Church whose cases were similar to those under the consideration of the House. One was the Archbishop of York, who from paralysis was unable to leave his mansion; and the other was the Bishop of Norwich, who had expressed his desire to retire, feeling incapable of efficiently discharging his episcopal duties. From the Reformation onwards (with the exception of the case of the Non-juring Bishops) there had not been a case of resignation by a Bishop of his episcopal duties or a seat in the House of Peers. In the reign of George III., when Bishop Sherlock was Bishop of London, the duties of the Bishop were performed for seven years by Bishop Pearce, Bishop of Rochester, without scandal to the Church, and without inconvenience resulting.

Mr. WALPOLE, in a lengthened speech, supported the bill, as did also Sir J. Shelley.

Mr. T. DUNLOMBE opposed the bill. This was a bill likely to bring the Church and the religion of the country into contempt, and the more it was known the greater would be the indignation of the people against it.

Mr. GLADSTONE said that whatever might be the result of the debate, great scandal would arise from this bill. The session was now far advanced, and it would be impossible to collect the opinion of the House on the subject, and therefore he trusted that the bill would be rejected, and that the Government would not collect all its powers and force this bill into a law. Legislation on the subject was not at all required. It had been said that a rector could not retire on a pension, but a rector could appoint a curate, and the act of Henry gave the power to bishops to appoint a suffragan, which was, in fact, a bishop's curate. The sums set down in the bill as pensions were generally considered too large, and many of the Members of the House had stated that although they would vote for the second reading of the bill, they would not pledge themselves to assent to the amounts now so set down.

Sir G. Grey defended the bill, and stated there was no contract in this case. He trusted that the bill would receive the sanction of the House.

Mr. BENTLEY insisted that any court of law would hold a transaction similar to the present to be simony, if it had occurred between the poor rector and his patron with regard to the resignation of his benefice, and that the Court of Chancery would hold that the negotiation which had been entered into between the two prelates and the Government was a binding contract.

Lord PALMERSTON said the Government intended to stand by the salaries as proposed in the bill, and if the pensions were reduced it would be for the bishops to decide whether they would retire. The Government had fulfilled their part of the bargain by the introduction of the bill, and it was for the House to decide whether it should be adopted.

The House then divided, when there appeared—for the second reading, 151; against it, 72; majority in favour of the second reading, 79.

The bill was read a second time, and ordered to be committed at twelve o'clock on Thursday.

The other orders of the day were then disposed of.

(The following appeared in a portion only of our Last Week's Impression.)

THURSDAY, JULY 17.

HOUSE OF LORDS.

RETIREMENT OF THE BISHOPS OF LONDON AND DURHAM.

On the motion for going into committee on the Bishops of London and Durham Retirement Bill, the opposition to the measure was renewed by Lord REDSHAW, and gave rise to a prolonged discussion.

The Bishop of OXFORD intimated his intention of moving for the production of whatever correspondence had passed between the two prelates and the Government with respect to the resignation of their sees.

The LORD CHANCELLOR stated that no objection would be raised against laying the papers alluded to on the table of the House. Meaning, he trusted that a day might be thus occasioned in the progress of the bill before the House.

Ultimately the motion was agreed to, and the bill was passed through committee for the purpose of introducing some amendments, and on the understanding that further discussion should be postponed to a subsequent stage.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

BRIBERY AT ELECTIONS.

On the motion for going into committee on the Corrupt Practices at Elections Prevention Continuance Bill,

Mr. H. BEECHEY moved as an amendment that the further progress of the measure should be deferred for three months. The bill he contended had proved very ineffectual in preventing bribery, corruption and intimidation at elections. It was a discreditable sham, in reality shielding and maintaining the very practice it was ostensibly designed to prevent. The Hon. Member proceeded to enforce the expediency of adopting vote by ballot as the only satisfactory means for putting an end to the disgraceful practices in question.

The amendment was seconded by Mr. CRAWFORD.

Mrs. INGRAM stated, from his own experience at a recent election, that the set had rendered possible a large reduction in the expenses, and had put an end to the system of indirect bribery in the shape of payment for flags and bands.

Mr. TITE admitted that the bill required amendment, but could not consent to withdraw it entirely.

Sir G. GREY hoped that the bill would be renewed for another year, and proposed that in the course of next session the subject should be referred to a select committee.

His assurance being repeated by Lord PALMERSTON, the amendment was withdrawn, and the bill passed through committee.

THE COUNCIL OF EDUCATION.

The second reading of the Vice-President of the Council of Education Bill was moved by Sir G. GREY, who briefly stated its object. The Committee of Council on Education were, he said, to be represented in the House by a single responsible minister, who, under the title of Vice-President, would explain when necessary, and be answerable for all the proceedings of the department.

Mr. HADFIELD objected to the bill, and moved that the second reading should be deferred for six months.

This amendment was seconded by Mr. PELLATT, but not pressed to a division.

The Divorce and Matrimonial Causes Bill was withdrawn for the present session.

THE EVACUATION OF THE CRIMEA.

The Correspondent of the "Morning Herald," writes on the 6th inst.:—
"Six ship-loads of stores are yet to be embarked. The Russians we have spared have good cause to bless their stars for the "retreat" (as their soldiers believe it to be) we have been induced to make. In their opinion we have lost the war, not won it. Inkermann was a Moscovite victory according to the Czar's ministers and generals—a medal is worn for it—and now our generous evacuation of the Crimea is regarded as a measure to which we have been compelled by the irresistible power of Russia. Great consternation evidently exists among the English and French traders yet left in the Crimea. Although they have, I admit, till Saturday next to "depart in peace," and have also six weeks' further time to remain and pay duty or to export their surplus goods, depend upon it a mighty list of great and petty vexations, dating from Saturday next, will soon find its way into the English press."

There will at once be enough "law" touching the "transferring of goods" to Eupatoria on the one side, and Theodosia on the other, the only ports in the Crimea for trade. Let us not be too late. Where are our consuls for Sebastopol, Balaklava, Kerch, Theodosia, and Kaffa, to protect British interests, now so seriously threatened? Odessa is so patronised and favoured in Downing Street that I refrain from adding it to this category. The best consuls for the Crimea at present would be a few gunboats. Nevertheless, it is to be hoped that the more legitimate consuls, having passed competitive examinations, are on their way out, and that there will be no "law's delay" in their receiving their equauctus. The Cossacks, who, chanting their national airs, marched into Kadi-Koi last Friday, ten days before their time, have already proved the "insolence of office" by attempting to levy contributions on shopkeepers! I pity the latter, and also the poor Tartars left behind; and happy am I that the deck of the *Blarney* in which I come home, is crowded not only with Tartar men, women, and children, but that the mule, the cat, the goat, and the pigeon, and even the Karabite Jew are also to be found amongst us. Let it not, however, be thought that little or nothing has been left behind for the Russians. They will find thousands of our wooden huts uninjured (we were ordered not to burn them) although a British subject, Mr. B—m—, offered to buy every one of them at a sovereign a piece; but his offer, at first accepted, was declined and cancelled. And now it is said the Russians will receive these "wooden walls" as a British baksheesh. Generous, unsophisticated John Ball! Four thousand of our cattle yet chew the cud at Kadi-Koi. The Moscovites a few days since offered three pounds a head for the beasts. Their offer was refused. We can't ship them off. There is no time, or indeed force, to eat them, even assisted by some two hundred convalescent or sick still in the hospitals, and so, I suppose, these four thousand head of cattle will fall as another baksheesh to the enemy.

notwithstanding General Oschurkowsky's "Notice" to "export" or to "pay duties." The merchants willing to do either will still have the Cossacks to deal with—gentlemen more given to looting than even Falstaff's ragged regiment; and as the Balaklava stores are not exactly little Malakhois, the contents of these stores will, I fear, become small by degrees and beautifully less. As the cat alone of all domestic animals drinks our milk in England, so properties evaporate wherever the Cossack "Nobody" plants his horses' hoofs, and not even our London detectives could afterwards trace them.

Our Palmerston Government will stand in an awkward predicament at the last moment if it be found that any British remain unprotected. *Ciris Romana sum* would everywhere protect the Latin in the time of the Caesars; but "I'm a bold Briton" won't go far with the Cossacks in the time of the Czars. Still, I may be regarded by some but as an alarmist. Far their satisfaction, then, let me add that, although her Majesty's ship *Leander* was the only man-of-war left at Balaklava (fine economy, truly!) when we sailed this morning, a majestic three-decker was subsequently described off the Monastery, steaming apparently for the same port, in the afternoon; and then, as to redackets, though the 72nd had left with her Majesty's ship *Sanspareil*, have we not left behind the 50th, 56th, and 82nd? Three "crack" regiments, certainly; but will they all be at Balaklava next Sunday when the Russian colours (resembling an upset hour-glass) are to be hoisted? I wot not. By-the-bye, even our Government coal hulk at Balaklava, the *Medora*, has been bought by the Russians for £700. Britannia is certainly selling off; and Britannia's coals will prove very handy for the Czar's new "police steamers." Russia is to have no other men-of-war in the Black Sea—*Credit Juches*. And now take care that Russia does not buy Milo from the Greeks, and thus have a strong naval port and a road on that side of Turkey, though prohibited by the allies from retaining one on this. Milo may yet become to Russia (though the Yankees failed to get it) what Malta is to England.

Before leaving Balaklava this morning I visited the grave of General Estcourt, at the Head-quarters of Lord Raglan and Generals Simpson and Codrington. "A house that changes its tenants so rapidly is not a palace, but a caravan-serai," saith the dervish. How many will wish, in coming years, to visit the head-quarters—rich in associations! How many will do so, and will gaze, as I did, this day, upon the unpretending mural tablet to the memory of Lord Raglan; and also upon the tomb covering the mortal remains of General Estcourt! This morning I found but two individuals at head-quarters. A Russian general had just left. The English staff all quitted on the preceding Friday and Saturday, and Captain Baines, the military magistrate, removed to Kadi-Koi, where he occupies Colonel Peel's old house. At head-quarters (whence the British flag was gone) I found one William Church, of the Sappers and Miners, carefully plastering into the wall the small tablet just mentioned, bearing the following inscription in English and Russian—"In this room, F. M. Lord Raglan, G.C.B., Commander-in-Chief of the English army in the Crimea, died June 28, 1855." The Russian inscription is below, I waited till Church had given "the last smooth" to the plaster, and thus experienced the gratification of being one of the only four in the house when the work was completed—Church, one of his comrades, a lady, and myself. Having to join the ship (and I found her under way on doing so) I could stay only till my fair country-woman had read this inscription; and next cut a twig of the tree shading the stone slab, also to the memory of Lord Raglan, in the vineyard, near the well. The lady in question also cut a slip or two from the field of vines at this "Raglan House;" they are rapidly recovering the injury they had received during the campaign from gentlemen of all ranks roving in search of fuel. Not a hut at head-quarters has been taken down, scarcely one is at all injured, and in many I saw frying-pans, and other kitchen utensils, fit for further use, waiting the arrival of the first comer. The Cossacks were prowling in the immediate neighbourhood, and they have ever keen noses for plunder.

General Estcourt's tomb, and the adjacent stone to the memory of — Cattley, Esq. (of the staff), have been well attended to in the luxuriant though little walled graveyard just outside the boundary of head-quarters. The spot is just five miles from Balaklava, and all the way there is an excellent road to it. Perhaps no general was ever more beloved than Estcourt. *Roumies in pace.*

Touching Balaklava, I have only to observe that the hospitals, and Miss Nightingale's residence, with wharves, sheds, and huts set up by the English, will all fall to the Russians on Sunday next. I cannot think of this hurried evacuation with any patience.

Monsieur Soyer, the prince of cooks, was still at Balaklava a few days since. I know not whether he goes at once to England, or remains a little time at Constantinople. Twelve months ago he saved my life, by keeping me in his own bed when dysentery first, and most unexpectedly, attacked me.

Mrs. Seacole was also in Balaklava this morning, and selling off port wine at one shilling a bottle.

THE OFFICE OF COMMANDER IN CHIEF.

At the present moment, when public attention is fixed upon the changes that are taking place at the Horse Guards, a brief sketch of the administration of that department for the last seventy years may not be out of place. It is rather singular that we do not find the title of "Commander-in-Chief" employed previous to the elevation of the late Duke of York to that post in 1795, and even on that occasion his Royal Highness's name occurs in the "Gazette" promotions as "appointed to be Field Marshal of his Majesty's Forces." This title, however, seems soon afterwards to have been tacitly dropped and supplanted by the other term so familiar to our ears. Previous to 1795, the chief administration of the Horse Guards was in the hand of the Adjutant-General—an office which was held successively by Lieutenant-General William Amherst, a younger brother of the first Lord Amherst; and after his death, in 1781, by Lieutenant-General Sir William Faucet, K.B. The Duke of York having been invested with the chief command, as we have said, in February, 1795, continued to administer it until the spring of 1809. He was succeeded as Commander-in-Chief by the late General Sir D. Dundas, who held that post, however, only till 1811, when the first step of the Prince of Wales, on becoming Regent, was to reinstate his brother, who was always popular with the army, in his command at the Horse Guards, which the Duke of York continued to hold from that date without interruption down to his death in January, 1827. The Duke of Wellington very naturally was chosen by Lord Liverpool to succeed his Royal Highness; but on becoming Premier in the February of the following year, his Grace resigned the command into the hands of the late Lord Hill, who continued to hold it until within a few months of his death, in 1842. From that date the administration of the Horse Guards was again in the hands of the Duke of Wellington until his death, September 14, 1852. Lord Hardinge, who at that time held the Mastership of the Ordnance, succeeded to the post of Commander-in-Chief and resigned it only last week, as our readers are aware, into the younger, and we trust more vigorous, hands of his Royal Highness the Duke of Cambridge. *Ti. es.*

THE SLAVE TRADE AT NEW YORK.

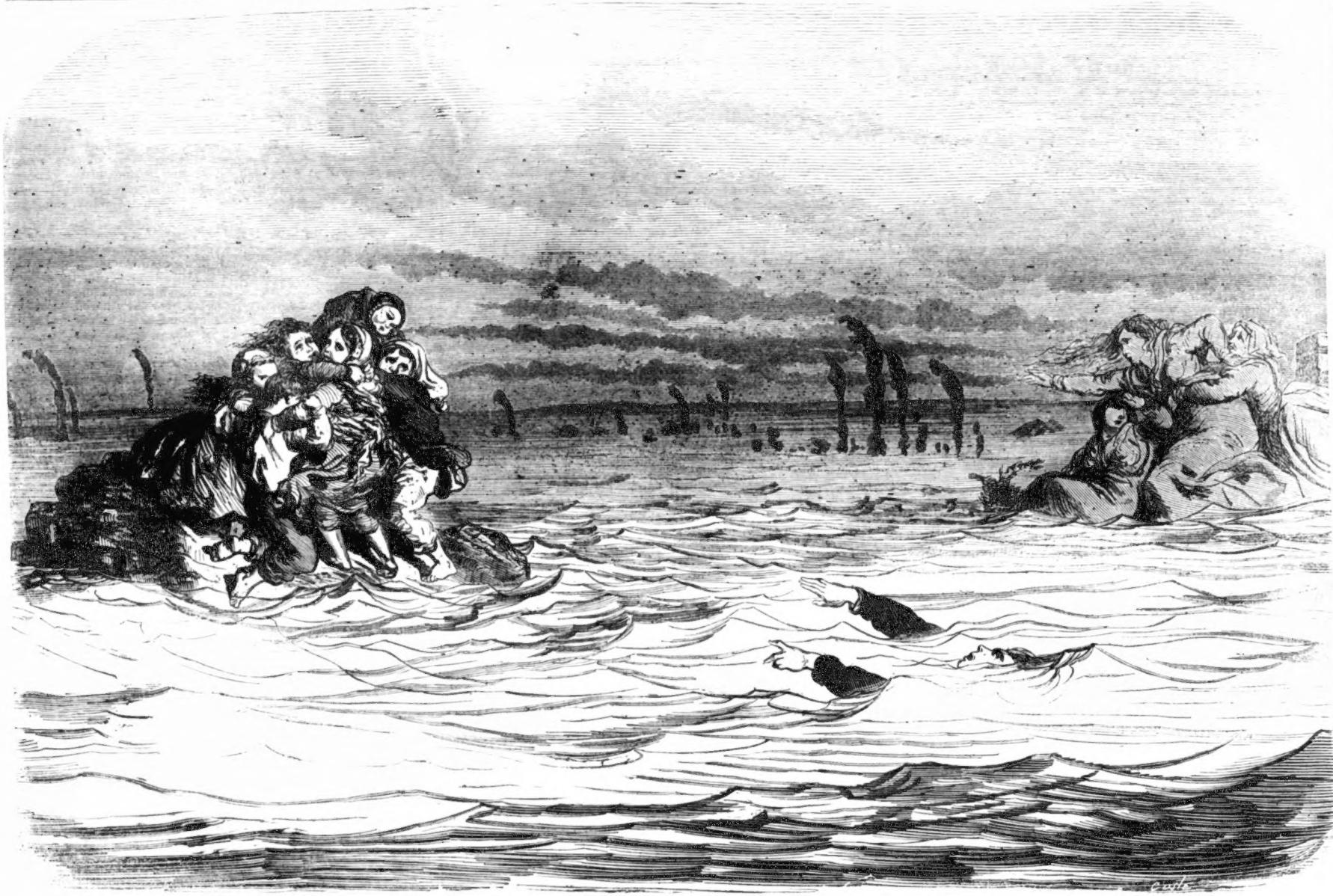
THAT the slave trade is not altogether confined in America to the south, has been known a long while to the initiated in the commerce of the northern ports. The "Yoricks" deny the soft impeachment; but their own "Journal of Commerce" has more than admitted it. It says—

"Few of our readers are aware of the extent to which this infamous traffic is carried on, even by vessels clearing from New York, and in close alliance with our legitimate trade, and that down-town merchants of wealth and respectability are extensively engaged in buying and selling African negroes, and have been so, with comparatively little interruption, for an indefinite number of years. The fact that such a traffic exists in connection with this port is well established; and yet, with but few exceptions, all the means that can be employed to secure the conviction of the guilty parties fail of their object, either through the cunning of well-fed lawyers, or, far worse, of want of evidence, and often the vessel slips off at dead of night. More frequently the slaver eludes the vigilance of the U.S. officers by engaging in an ordinary trading voyage, and changing her destination, cargo, &c., to suit her convenience. The public officers may be

well aware of her true character, and yet possess no power to detain her. So varied are the devices employed by this class of law-breakers to escape detection so skilfully are their movements executed, and so incessant are their endeavours, under the powerful stimulus of inordinate gain, that the services of the Government officers are in constant requisition. We are informed, by the deputy United States marshals, that they are well satisfied that at least fifteen slave vessels have sailed from this port within the last twelve months, and three within the last three weeks. With such audacity is the villainy prosecuted, that while Marshal de Angelis was occupied about the seizure of the *Browne*, (whose officers were on trial for engaging in the slave trade) advantage was taken by another vessel of the same character to glide down the river and escape. It is well known that within sixty days an old vessel was bought for 1,500 dls., refitted and altered to a topsail schooner, loaded with logwood and whalebone, and cleared for a European port, in command of a captain who was convicted at Philadelphia, a short time since, of being engaged in slave trading; yet there were no circumstances which would justify the issue of a warrant for her detention, though the officers entertained no doubt as to her real character and objects.

It is satisfactory to know that few, if any, American merchants are directly engaged in these transactions, the principal parties being foreigners, and most of them Portuguese. There is, however, reason to believe that not unfrequently Americans share in the risks and profits of the business. The impunity with which these transactions are carried on may be inferred from the fact, that during the last year there have been but five prosecutions for any breach of the laws relating to this matter, and of this number, the Government succeeded in procuring but one conviction, namely, the captain of the *Julia Morgan*. Starting as some of these facts may appear, it does not prove that this description of traffic is on the increase, but only shows that greater vigilance has been exercised for its suppression. Not long ago, Mr. Crawford, her Britannic Majesty's consul-general in Cuba, called the attention of Mr. Crampton, at Washington, to the fact that slaves were fitted out in this city, and asking his intercession to prevent the sailing of a vessel that was then nearly in readiness. In the instance referred to, Don Jose Egea left Havana for New York, (as Mr. Crawford asserts) in order to purchase, through a certain house, a pilot-boat or fore-and-aft schooner, capable of bringing over 500 slaves from Africa to Cuba; the vessel to be provided with water, &c., and thus prepared to sail from New York for her destination, where the slaves were in waiting. Mr. Crawford remarked, in connection with his despatch:—"Almost all the slave expeditions for some time past have been fitted out in the United States, chiefly at New York, where there must be some establishment, ship or out-fitting, carpenter's or builder's yard, specially undertaking such business for the slaves." Most of the vessels fitted out in the United States for the slave trade sail from New York, but a considerable proportion of them go from New Orleans, and occasionally from other ports. Here they possess every facility that can be had in other places for furthering their purpose, and the laws do not frown with such threatening severity and such certainty of execution as to effectively forbid their infraction; for, while the profits of a successful venture are so enormous, men will be found sufficiently bold and avaricious to engage in the hazardous enterprise, trusting to their wits to avoid the cruisers, or wriggle through the meshes of the law. The vessels ordinarily selected are of medium size, costing not more than 5,000 or 7,000 dollars, bought with the expectation that they will be destroyed when their cargo is secured and finally discharged. Traders calculate that if but one vessel out of four proves successful, they can well afford to incur all the losses involved, and assume all the risks. Negroes are obtained on the African Coast at from 10 to 40 dls. per head, and from 300 to 800 dls. is readily obtained for them when landed; so that a cargo of 500 slaves, costing 15,000 dls., or 30 dls. per head, realises the venturesome trader, if sold at an average of 400 dls. per head, at least 170,000 or 180,000 dls., expenses deducted. It is alleged that the destruction of vessels in the manner suggested has a sensible effect in reducing the number of vessels adapted to the slave business to be found in market. They are sunk, burned, or run ashore. It is but a few days since an account was published of a steamer, fully fitted up for her business, which had been forced shore on the coast of Maryland, with her bottom perforated with auger holes, and completely abandoned. In most cases, however, the vessel lands her cargo, and is not afterwards heard from. Only to the deep bosom of the ocean is the secret entrusted.

The manner of fitting out slaves in New York may be briefly narrated. In most cases, a suitable vessel is first selected (a fore-and-aft schooner or large sloop being generally preferred), and furnished with spars, sails, &c. She is then towed up the river or down the bay, and sometimes to the east end of Long Island, to avoid observation, and there supplied with whatever is needful to perfect her outfit. For instance, the *Falmouth*, recently condemned for being engaged in this business, was taken from Astoria to Hurl Gate, and late at night provisions, casts, boilers, and other articles, were put aboard from a vessel which came alongside. Immediately after, the *Falmouth* was towed to Hurl Gate Ferry, and the sixty-seven casks with which she was supplied were stealthily filled from a hydrant. Had a permit been obtained, as legally required, suspicion would have been excited by the large quantity of water furnished to so small a vessel. This important part of the preparation accomplished, the *Falmouth* was taken in tow by a steamer about two o'clock in the morning, so as to get off Sandy Hook by break of day. Seen there at another hour, the vessel would be liable to be boarded by the revenue officers and asked to show her manifest; having none, she would be seized. This is the predicament in which the *Bramble* was found, whose case has just been before our courts. On her second voyage, the *Falmouth* regularly cleared from the Custom House, with just a sufficient supply of provisions for an honest voyage; but after proceeding down Long Island to Gardner's Bay, she was supplied by another vessel with provisions, large boilers, timber for a "slave deck," and bricks and lime to set the furnaces. She then sailed for Africa. A revenue cutter followed in pursuit, but without success. To still further diminish the chances of detection, slave vessels no longer carry irons or shackles, as formerly, which, if found, constituted strong evidence of guilt, but employ as a substitute a kind of small nail, so made that the points stand upright when thrown down, so that in case of revolt among the negroes aboard ship, they are strewn thickly over the deck. On the *Falmouth* about 600 rings and ropes were found. These are some of the devices employed to profit by the breach of laws without incurring the penalties annexed. It is not at all unusual for foreigners to come to this port from Havana or Brazil, buy a vessel, fit her out, and sail in her themselves, employing a shrewd American captain to act either in his professional capacity or simply as passenger, surrendering or assuming authority as previously agreed upon. In other cases vessels engaged in a legitimate African trade, in palm oil, gums, ivory, peanuts, &c., are converted into slaves, when opportunity offers. The preparation of these vessels, in the city, is necessarily conducted with the profoundest secrecy, and with, to all appearance, the most scrupulous regard for all legal requirements. The United States officers may visit the suspected vessels without the interposition of any obstacle; but no one on board can give the slightest information. Even if arrested, the men literally know nothing. In the case of the *Falmouth*, all found on board were passengers, but were so strangely ignorant that they did not know where they were going, and the vessel had no owner or captain. The result was, all hands were discharged, though the vessel was condemned. Cargoes of slaves are obtained and discharged so as to evade capture, by the exchange of preconcerted signals between the ship and shore. The presence or removal of danger is thus readily indicated by "bunting reading." It appears obvious that the slave trade, as conducted at the present time, and for many years past, must continue while the markets of Cuba are open. It is notorious that Cuban officials are often interested in its prosecution on account of the heavy emoluments received as the reward of their connivance. The fitting out of vessels cannot be prevented, except by making it impossible to realise the object for which it is undertaken. That this may be speedily accomplished must be the devout wish of every philanthropist, for it is impossible to hear of the horrors of the middle passage, and of the other barbarities to which the unfortunate negroes are subjected, without excreting so barbarous a traffic.



DISTRESSING INCIDENT AT THE RECENT INUNDATIONS.—(DRAWN BY GUSTAVE DORE.)

THE INUNDATIONS IN FRANCE.

EVERY country appears in the present day to be visited periodically by one or more of those plagues, whose combined force was once directed against the doomed Egypt. New Orleans has its yellow fever, which, at intervals of a few years, depopulates whole quarters of the city; Turkey has its plague; Ireland its famine; Mexico and Peru their earthquakes;

France's especial curse, after its revolutions, which may, after all, lead to some ulterior good, are its inundations, which are a calamity of the most direful and unredeemed description—not periodical and fructifying, like those of the Nile, but sudden, unexpected, and fatal, as the whirlwind or the earthquake.

In England we have reason to be grateful for being singularly free from

plagues of all descriptions, whether of earth, fire, water, or air. We have no volcanoes or terrestrial eruptions in any form; no thunderstorms, such as have the effect of setting a tenth part of Vienna on fire about once every five years; no inundations like those which have just produced so much desolation among our neighbours and allies and but for our Board of Health, should perhaps even have no cholera.



THE INUNDATIONS IN THE SOUTH OF FRANCE—COLLECTING THE BODIES OF THE SUFFERERS.—(DRAWN BY GUSTAVE DORE.)

Accordingly, we are quite unable, from our own experience, to form any idea of the nature and extent of those terrible inundations, which, after laying waste an amount of country equal to the greater part of England, have now left an almost incalculable number of the French population dependent upon the charity of their compatriots, their allies, and all countries in the world in which sympathy is not dead. In England we sometimes hear of a family living near Hammersmith, whose cellars are habitually damp, and who, after a heavy shower or an unusually high spring tide, find their sofa and chairs floating about in the parlour, and themselves confined to the first floor until they can amuse themselves by getting out of window in some novel and not very dangerous fashion; but these little aquatic mishaps have no more resemblance to one of the ordinary inundations of the Loire than a chimney on fire less to the Great Fire of London, while they would bear about the same proportion to the general inundation which has lately covered the fairest and most fertile portion of France with water, that these inundations do to the Flood.

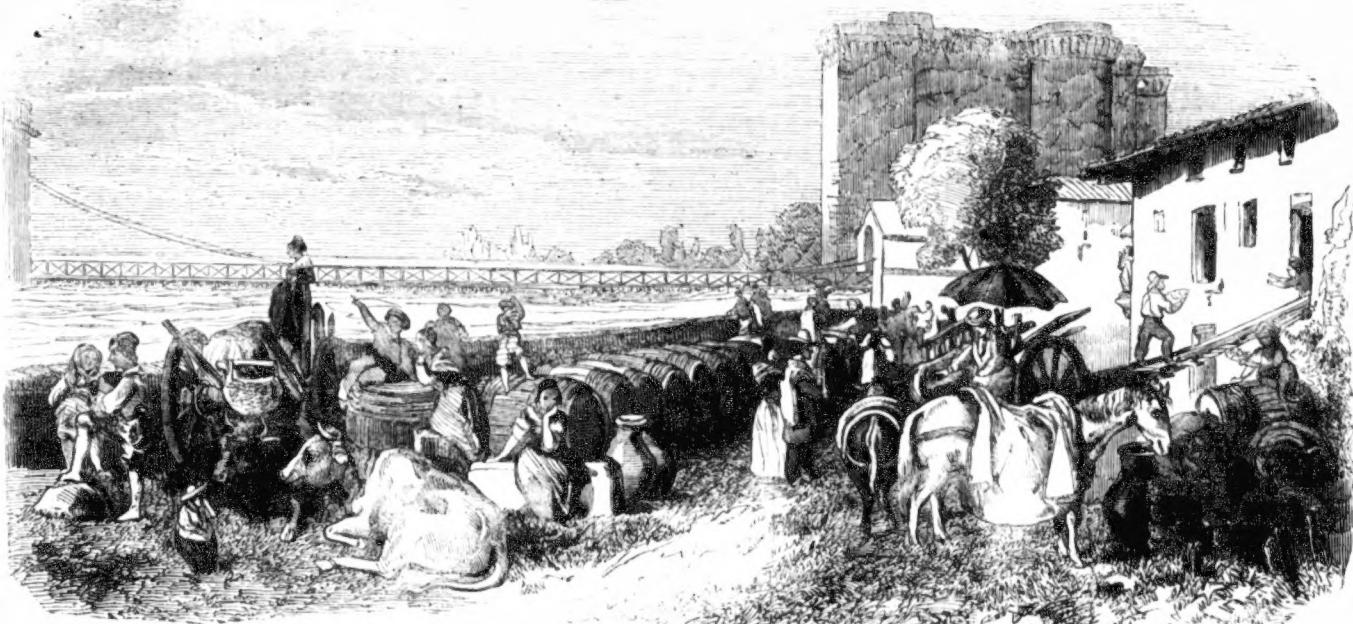
There is nothing new in France for the banks of the Loire to be inundated, and half the vintage of Touraine ruined or destroyed, while the "rapid Rhône" also not unfrequently overflows its banks; but for the Loire, the Rhône, and the Saône to flood their respective districts simultaneously, is a calamity which has seldom happened, and when the flood is of such magnitude as that which has lately cast alarm over the whole of France, the calamity becomes indeed a national one.

One of the most awful characteristics of the inundations is their extreme suddenness. The waters will rise six feet in as many minutes, and if the rising commences in the dead of the night the result is inevitable destruction for large numbers of those persons whose abodes are on the banks of the swollen river. In Touraine, which is called the garden of France, and which with more propriety might be called its park, the Loire is in many places studded with little islands, which are all inhabited whenever they offer sufficient space for the erection of any sort of habitation.

Now, if the reader will fancy the island in the "enclosure" of St. James's Park as it would be after the "ornamental water" had risen only a few feet above its usual level, and will at the same time fancy the position of the keeper of the ducks and swans, who is supposed to constitute the population of the island in question, on awaking and finding himself floating

in his bed-room, the reader may then form some dim notion of what effect an inundation has upon a private individual at its very commencement.

Of course, in a river like the Loire, where the stream is rapid, the furniture is soon carried away from the building which contains it, and if the water continue to rise, the inmates have gradually to ascend to the



THE FRENCH INUNDATIONS—THE INHABITANTS OF TARASCON ENCAMPED ON THE QUAY.



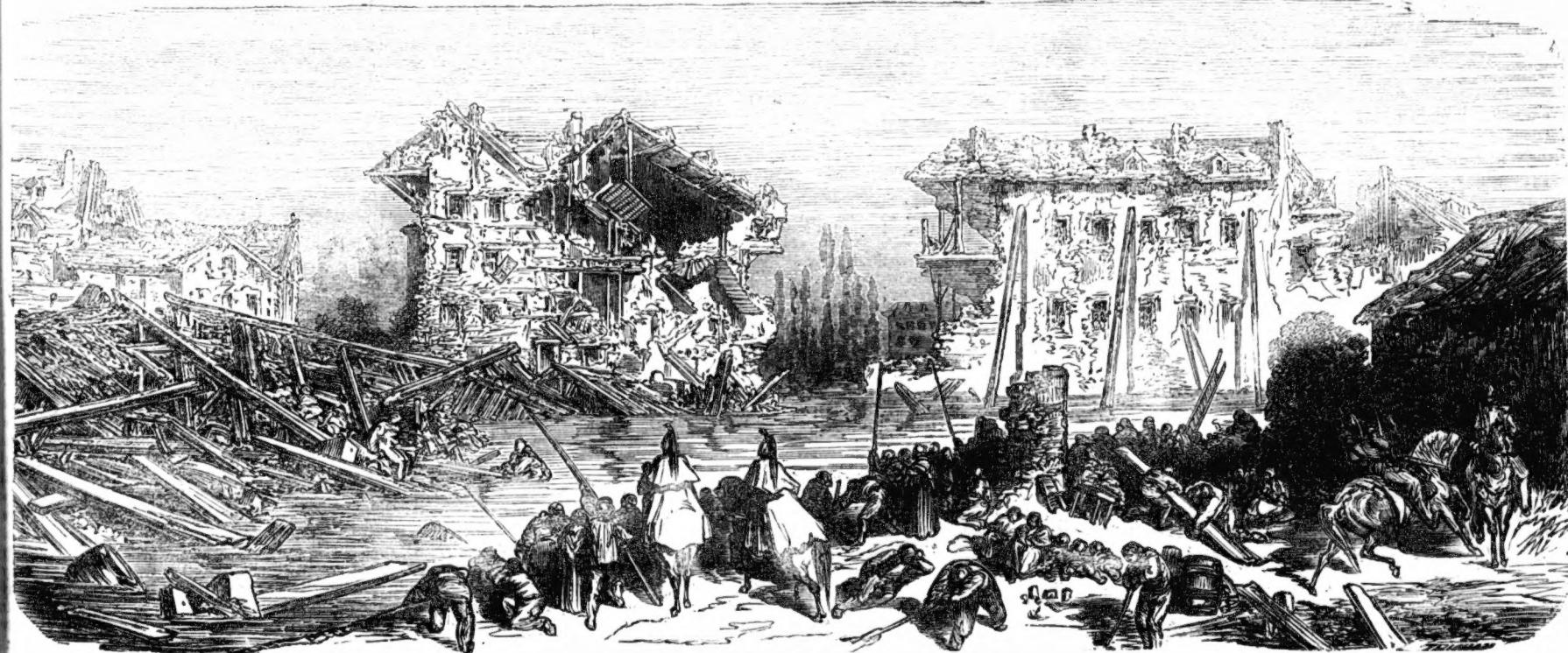
A STREET IN LYONS ON THE SUBSIDENCE OF THE INUNDATIONS.

highest point like the family in Girodet's celebrated picture of the "Deluge." Moreover, as the river gains in height, it also gains in breadth, so that each moment it becomes more necessary for the invaded family to seek refuge from the encroachments of the water by

ascending to a higher and a higher point, it also becomes more difficult for them to escape to either of the banks. Sometimes, with the early morning, boatmen make their appearance, and succeed in rescuing the unfortunate islanders from their desperate position, but if the inundation

commences early in the night, and gains in violence with any great rapidity, their situation is from the beginning almost a hopeless one.

Generally speaking, the inhabitants of these "little islands in question, stand their ground to the very last moment. They have, like all the



HOUSES IN THE COURSE LAFAYETTE, AT LYONS.

French peasantry, a love for the little handful of earth they possess, which amounts almost to superstition, and which certainly goes far beyond anything like ordinary avarice. To their inundated grounds, and floating houses, they will stick with all the pertinacity attributed to the cat, nor do they even display the instinct of the rat in leaving them, when it is evident that there is at length no safety but in flight. The peasant flatters himself that the waters are always on the point of subsiding, and wherever his *pied à terre* may be, there he will remain up to his neck in water until the position, even under such drawbacks as these, becomes physically untenable.

Of course, at present, when it is too late, all sorts of plans are being suggested, which might have prevented these fatal inundations. At the same time it is as well to consider what is to be done to prevent or lessen the calamities in future. Most persons have suggested dykes, but the difficulty and expense of erecting them along the banks of all the principal rivers in France, without which they would be worse than useless, form insuperable objections. "Nothing," says the "Moniteur," "can be more easy than to construct works of art which would temporarily preserve from inundations such cities as Lyons, Valence, Avignon, Tarascon, Orleans, Blois, and Tours. But as to a general system to be adopted in order to protect for the future from such terrible scourges our rich valleys traversed by large rivers, that is still wanting, and must be absolutely and immediately found." The system of dykes would, it appears, for the Uhone alone, cost more than 100 million francs, and if one of the dykes gave way, the consequences would of course be more terrible than if no dykes had existed at all.

Most persons, many even of those who suggest such numerous remedies, are totally ignorant of the causes which lead to these inundations. They are explained as follows in a letter from the Emperor to the Minister of Public Works, which is published by the French official journal:—

"The phenomenon may be easily understood. When the rain falls on a plain the ground serves as a kind of sponge, and to water, before reaching the river, has to traverse a vast extent of soft ground, a gentle slope of which also retards the running off of the water. But when, in consequence of the melting of the snow, the same thing takes place on the mountains, where the ground, mostly rocky or gravelly, does not absorb the moisture, the steepness of the country carries the water rapidly to the rivers, which thus suddenly rise. This is what we see every day when it rains. The rain which falls in our fields seldom forms a stream, but that which falls on the roofs of houses, and which runs into the gutters, instantly becomes streams. Thus the roofs are the mountains, and the gutters the valleys. If we, therefore, suppose a valley four leagues long by two wide, and that there has fallen in the twenty-four hours ten centimetres of rain on that surface, we shall have in the same space of time 12,800,000 cubic metres of water, which will have run into the river; and this phenomenon will be repeated for each of the tributary streams of that river. Suppose, therefore, that the Rhone or the Loire has ten large tributary streams, we shall have the immense volume of 128,000,000 cubic metres of water which will have run into the river in twenty-four hours."

The Emperor suggests the erection of weirs in all the tributary streams at the mouth of the valleys, leaving in the centre only a narrow passage for the waters, and thus keeping them back when their volume increases, and forming reservoirs which could only empty themselves slowly. This he calls doing on a small scale what nature herself has done on a large one. "If the Lake of Constance and the Lake of Geneva did not exist," he adds, "the valley of the Rhine, and that of the Rhone, would only form two vast sheets of water; for every year the above-mentioned lakes, without any extraordinary fall of rain, and merely from the melting of the snow, rise from two to three metres. It may be conceived that with this immense volume of water, if it were not kept back by the mountains at the opening of those two lakes check it, and only allow it to run off according to the breadth and depth of the river, a frightful inundation would take place every year."

M. Gustave Doré, who has sent so many admirable sketches from the scene, or rather scenes, of the inundations, has forwarded an excellent representation of a street in Lyons, on the subsidence of the inundations. Fancy the inundation of the most populous city in France! Lyons is nothing but an immense manufactory; and, independently of the direct calamities—such as the destruction of lives and property—we must also take into consideration the indirect ones, to which such a catastrophe must subject its working population. The inundations, then, simply have the effect of stopping the greater number of the mills and print-works, on which the *ouvriers* depend for their daily subsistence. The divinity of the town is trade; "not," says Dumas, in his "Pictures of Travel in the South of France," "the trade of seaports redeemed by the dangers of navigating some distant ocean where the foreman is captain and his workmen sailors; not the poetic trade of Tyre, Venice, and Marseilles, around which the sun of the east throws a halo, the stars of the south form a crown, the fogs of the west a veil, and the ice of the north a girdle; but the mean, inactive trade which seats itself behind a counter or leans upon a loom—which enervates by the want of air and brutalises by the absence of sky—which takes sixteen hours of work out of the twenty-four, and in return gives only half the amount of bread required by the cravings of hunger. Yes, Lyons is certainly a lively and animated town, but it is the liveliness and animation of a machine; and the *fe-tac* of its frames is the only pulsation which its heart is acquainted with. . . . And when the beatings of its heart cease from want of work, the frame is like a paralyzed body, to which no activity can be given—except by the *moxa* of a ministerial measure or the galvanism of a government supply. Thirty thousand frames stop, nearly sixty thousand persons are without bread; and hunger, the mother of insurrection, is on howling through the tortuous streets of the second city in France."

The effects of the inundation at Tarascon, where M. Doré has represented the inhabitants taking refuge on the quays, were more than usually terrible, for another reason. Tarascon is only separated by the Rhone from Beaucaire, where, towards the end of July—about the present period, in fact—the celebrated fair is held. The majority of the houses are shops, which are closed during three hundred and fifty or sixty days in the year, and only open at the approach of the fair, when the deserted quays of the town are changed into bazaars. Then the roads to Paris and Nîmes are blocked up with coaches; the canals are covered with boats and barges; in fact, all the approaches to the town are filled by the specimens of the produce of the whole continent. The fair begins on the 22nd of July and ends on the 28th—that is to say, it should begin and end on the days in question, but owing to the state of the Rhone and its banks it is almost impossible for it to take place this year at all. Accordingly, nearly all the inhabitants of Beaucaire, and a large proportion of those of Tarascon, will lose the work's occupation and commerce, on which they are in the habit of subsisting during the remainder of the year. "Beaucare," says Dumas, "like those gigantic serpents of South America which eat for an entire day, and are six months in completing their digestion, lives all the year round on the strength of its fair, the reputation of which is European." During the few days which the fair lasts, business is transacted to the amount of several millions of francs, and on the 29th the visitors disperse with their goods, the shops are again deserted, and the houses closed.

In some places entire cities, such as Jargeau, have disappeared. The catastrophe is altogether of a nature which we are no more able to judge of in England than of the horrors of an invasion. We know one thing, however, that a large portion of the French population have been thrown into a state of absolute starvation; and there is no doubt but the subscription, which already forms a large sum, will in time reach that enormous amount which can alone suffice to alleviate the gigantic calamity which has fallen upon France.

In his letter to the Minister of Public Works, already quoted, the Emperor says:—

"After having examined the ravages caused by the inundations, my first object has been to find the means for preventing similar disasters. According to what I saw, there are in the greatest number of the localities secondary works, indicated by the nature of the ground, and which skillful engineers might readily execute. Thus nothing can be more easy than to construct works of art which would temporarily preserve from such inundations cities such as Lyons, Valence, Avignon, Tarascon, Orleans, Blois, and Tours. But as to a general system to be adopted in order to protect for the future our rich valleys traversed by large rivers, that is still wanting, and must be absolutely and immediately found."

"The system of dykes is only a palliative, injurious for the state, and imperfect for the interests to be protected; for, in general, the sand which is brought down constantly elevating the bed of the rivers, and the dykes tending to narrow them, it is necessary to be constantly adding to the height of those dykes, to be prolonging them along both banks, and to subject them to constant superintendence. In the midst of all the systems proposed, one alone appears to me to be reasonable, practicable, of ready execution, and which, moreover, has experience in favour of it."

"It proceeds the Emperor the immense volume of water received from the mountains in the rainy season, and precipitated into the Rhone or the Loire by their tributary streams can be kept back, the object is accomplished. Or if the water can be kept back in such a manner that its running off must occupy twice or thrice the space of time, then, as may be readily conceived, the inundation will be rendered twice or thrice less dangerous."

"Everything, therefore, consists in retarding the running off of the water. The means of effecting this is to erect on all the tributary streams of rivers, at the mouths of the valleys, weirs, leaving in the centre only a narrow passage for the waters, and thus keeping them back when their volume increases, and forming reservoirs which could only empty themselves slowly. It is necessary to do on a small scale what nature has done on a large one. If the lake of Constance and the lake of Geneva did not exist, the valley of the Rhine and that of the Rhone would only form two vast sheets of water; for every year the above-mentioned lakes, without any extraordinary fall of rain, and merely from the melting of the snow, rise from two to three metres. It may be conceived that with this immense volume of water, if it were not kept back by the mountains at the opening of those two lakes check it, and only allow it to run off according to the breadth and depth of the river, a frightful inundation would take place every year."

"As it is very important that the rise of each tributary stream should not reach the principal river at the same time, it might perhaps be possible, by multiplying the number of those weirs in some places, and restricting them in others, to check the course of other streams, so that the increased quantities of their water should always reach the main river one after the other. These weirs, instead of injuring agriculture, will be favourable to it, by the deposit of mud which will be formed in the artificial lakes, and which will serve to fertilise the ground. Where rivers bring down sand, these weirs would have the advantage of keeping back a great part of it, and, by increasing the current in the middle of the rivers, make the channel deeper. But even should these weirs do some injury to private property, the only thing to be done, would be to indemnify the proprietors, for the same must be done with regard to water as with fire—one part must be sacrificed to save the other; the narrow, but not very fertile valleys, must be sacrificed for the safety of the rich land of the fertile plains."

"This system cannot be efficacious unless it be generalised; that is to say, applied to the smallest tributary streams. It will not be very expensive, if the small weirs be multiplied, instead of very large ones being erected: but it is clear that this will not prevent the necessity of secondary works for the protection of the towns, and certain more exposed plains."

"I wish you, therefore, to have this system examined on the spot, as soon as possible, by the competent men of your ministry. I wish that, independently of the dykes which are to be erected on the most threatened points, there should be made at Lyons a channel for carrying off the great bulk of water, similar to that at Blois; it would have the advantage of preserving the city, and increasing the defence of that fortified place."

"I wish that there should be made in the bed of the Loire, at a time when the water is low and parallel to the course of the river, dykes formed of branches of trees open at the upper part, in order to form basins for the mud. These dykes would have the advantage of stopping the sand without checking the water, and thus deepening the bed of the river."

"I wish that the system proposed for the Rhone by M. Vallee, Inspector-General des Ponts et Chaussées, should be seriously examined, with the concurrence of the Swiss Government. It consists in lowering the waters of the Rhone at the place where it runs from the Lake of Geneva, and of constructing a weir there. By this means there would be obtained, according to his account, a lowering of the waters of the Leman, which would be useful to the Valais, the Canton de Vaud, and Savoy; and also a better navigation of the lake, embellishments for Geneva, less disastrous inundations in the valley of the Rhone, and a better navigation of that river."

"Lastly, I wish that the management of the great rivers should be confided to one person, in order that the direction may be unique and prompt in the moment of danger. I wish that the engineers who have acquired long experience in matters connected with rivers should be advanced on the spot, and not suddenly taken from their particular works, for it frequently happens that an engineer who has devoted a part of his life either to the study of maritime works on the sea coast, or to hydraulic works in the interior, is suddenly, by being promoted, employed in another service, and the State loses the advantage of his special knowledge and the result of his long practical experience."

"What happened at the great inundation of 1846, should serve as a lesson for us. Much was said on the subject in the Chambers, and very luminous reports were made; but no system was adopted, no clearly defined impulse given. Partial works only were executed, which, according to the opinion of scientific men, only tended, in consequence of their want of ensemble to render the effects of the last scourge more disastrous."

THE RETIREMENT OF THE BISHOPS OF LONDON AND DURHAM.

The correspondence which led to the proceedings in Parliament, relative to the retirement of the Bishops of London and Durham, has been published. It is as follows:—

THE LORD BISHOP OF LONDON TO VISCOUNT PALMERSTON.

"Fuham Palace, June 18, 1856.

"My dear Lord,—I think it proper to communicate to you my desire, on account of continued illness, if allowed by law, to resign the Bishopric of London, upon being secured the enjoyment, during my life, of a clear annuity of six thousand pounds. If this proposal should be approved of by your Lordship, I trust that you will take the proper measures for carrying it into effect. I have the honour to be, my dear Lord, your very faithful servant,

(Signed) "C. J. LONDON."

THE VISCOUNT PALMERSTON TO THE BISHOP OF LONDON.

"Fleecadilly, June 19, 1856.

"My dear Lord,—I have to acknowledge the communication of your wishes to resign your see, on the conditions mentioned by you, and I will take steps to carry your wishes into effect. My dear Lord, yours faithfully,

(Signed) "PALMERSTON."

THE LORD BISHOP OF DURHAM TO VISCOUNT PALMERSTON.

"4, Upper Portland Place, June 21, 1856.

"My Lord,—In consequence of the great failure of my sight, and other infirmities incident to a very advanced age, I am anxious, if allowed by law, to be relieved from the fatigue and responsibility of the high office which I have now enjoyed for the last twenty years. As I shall relinquish a very much larger income, I am persuaded that your Lordship will not consider the annual allowance of £4,500 per annum as by any means unreasonable. Upon the assurance that this will be granted, I shall be ready to resign the Bishopric of Durham on any day not earlier than the 1st of August.

"I could have wished to have named a later day, for I fear it will not be in my power to complete arrangements for leaving Auckland so early a day: but Lord Chichester informed me that it might be inconvenient to the Government; I therefore acquiesced, in the confidence that I should not be hurried unnecessarily, and it may possibly be desirable that my successor, whoever he may be, should have an opportunity of conferring with me before I leave Auckland upon the state of the diocese. I have the honour to be, my Lord, your most obedient servant,

(Signed) "E. DURHAM."

THE LORD BISHOP OF LONDON TO VISCOUNT PALMERSTON.

"Fulham Palace, June 23, 1856.

"My dear Lord,—I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Lordship's letter of the 19th inst., and to express my obligation for your prompt acceptance in my proposal. I remain, my dear Lord, your very faithful servant,

(Signed) "C. J. LONDON."

THE MARRIAGE OF A DEAF AND DUMB COUPLE was celebrated a few days since at Uim. The Government had at first refused permission, but it was eventually granted on the director of the deaf and dumb establishment at Germund, declaring that the state of the parents would have no influence on any children that might be born to them.

THE INDIAN MAIL.—Six boxes of letters, forming part of the India Mail closed in London on the 26th of June, have been left behind in Egypt, and will be forwarded only with the next mail. They consisted of one box for Calcutta, two for Madras, one for Bombay, one for the Mauritius, and one for Réunion. The cause of this untoward event was that one of the camels laden with these boxes, being a wild, unmanageable animal, strayed away from the other camels and was not found until twenty-four hours later. The steamer *Codz*, which might have left Suez for Bombay with the mails on the 7th, was detained until the evening of the 8th, but as no traces of the missing camel had then been discovered, she had to start without them.

DISTRESSING DEATH.—Early on Sunday morning, after the water of the Stone Dam had been let off, the body of William Hoyle, of the firm of Messrs. Hoyle, worsted manufacturers, Halifax, was discovered embedded in the sludge at the bottom of the reservoir. The deceased was last seen alive on Friday night, when he left the Golden Pheasant public-house, in a state of intoxication, about twelve o'clock. From the fact of a bludgeon being found near the body, it was at first supposed that Mr. Hoyle had been the victim of foul play; but the surgeon on examining the body, could find no marks of violence upon it, nor did it appear that the deceased had been robbed; and it seems most probable that he fell into the stream supplying the reservoir, and was carried down by the current. The occurrence has caused a most painful sensation in the neighbourhood.

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ILLUSTRATED TIMES.

SATURDAY, JULY 26, 1856.

SOME HOME TOPICS.

We have been this week in the very dregs of the Session. Such periods are not unsatisfactory. A restlessness and haste pervade public life. Nobody settles to business calmly. Besides which London begins to weary of the heat; and the Londoner peers eagerly about him, like a bird beginning to fly. Who at such times cares to read a dissertation? Enough if he be willing to listen to a few minutes' talk.

The Bishops of London and Durham have come in for their full share of discussion this week. The world is always willing to discuss about a Bishop: he is so much reverenced by one party, and so suspiciously viewed by another; and he is a kind of symbol of the whole Church. And, somehow, we never doubt of him so readily as when there is a question of his pay.

Our ancestors do not appear to have thought that a bishop could ever retire. At all events, it is curious that we require a special Act to get him on his retired list. Charles James of London, we find, has acted with propriety in wishing to withdraw before the dignity of his office was imperilled by his decay. Yet we cannot acquit him of making his retirement somewhat too much of a bargain. Read his letter to Palmerston—and what is it but a bargain? He will retire on a pension being granted him. No pension—no retirement. As we read it, he would keep the office—whether able to discharge its duties or not—if he was not paid for giving it up. The Bishop is a man of business. Indeed that is his talent, as his face alone would tell you—a talent not always found in men of so much scholarship. But, for our parts, we cannot help thinking that the demand for a pension from one who has enjoyed such revenues is a little too bad. We have nothing to say against the man or the office. But when the whole world is bent on money-making and money-worship, it is *peccatum exempli* that the foremost Christian Priest of London should require to be paid like a Cabinet Minister for not being able to discharge the duties of his see. His charities? The reader suggests—most proper, say we; but if you pay a man for being charitable, you destroy all the grace of that peculiar Christian virtue. And every day we have ugly details of the sufferings of the poorer clergy.

The Chelsea Board of Inquiry has acquitted Lord Lucan, but it is a public secret to know is, that, acquitted or not, he is a officer whose cavalry died under him—a man with a bad head and a bad temper—not popular in the army, and not respected in the country. What a few old gentlemen of his own calibre think is of little consequence. We hoped nothing from the inquiry from the first, and have therefore no wonder to express. If we have a wonder, it is that the insolence with which this person treats everybody he is brought in contact with (as witness the cases of Col. Tulloch and Mr. Villiers) does not get him more severely handled. Ours is, we fear, rather a timid and flunkeyish period, or one or two people we could name would come in for condign chastisement. But we shall probably not have another war in this officer's time; and with this hope we leave him to the obscurity which awaits the bunglers of that fatal winter in which so many better men than themselves died. What a contrast between the Crimean Earls who bought (for virtually they did buy) the rank and the simple gentlemen who held Kars!

The militia and other forces destined to be disembodied seem to be unable to break up without fight. The close of the war has been a sad thing for aspirants seeking glory and pay; and we cannot fancy any position more likely to breed a fight than that of a batch of soldiers of different nations assembled in a country place—with a recent war to discuss—and a kind of blank feeling that there has not been war enough. As for Mr. Murrough's display on the subject of the row at Aldershot, it was the ridiculous effort of a nobody to become a somebody out of nothing at all. Not that we do not regret such rows, but to invest them with importance for political purposes is mean and stupid.

We have naturally heard a good deal of the case of Dove, the condemned criminal. It is of great importance that the law should be carried out in all cases where clear insanity is not proved. Now, clear insanity was not proved in his case. Everybody must have come across persons equally "eccentric," but whom they never for a moment regarded as free from moral responsibility. Here was a fellow with whom the world bought and sold, and transacted its ordinary business—whose wife lived with him apparently in no fear except of his getting drunk—or, if of anything else, at least only of such cruelty as is quite compatible with sanity. It was only when drunk that he became really wild; and he was not drunk, but sober, when he planned and committed his crime. He seems to have been stupid, but so are a great many men, and some that we have known in offices of consequence. He was cruel because he was wicked, and therefore murdered his wife; but that does not prove him insane any more than it does any other murderer. Why, then, should Dove escape? Of course, it is exceedingly proper that the Home Office should make all inquiries, and if it prove that the man is really insane, should content itself with confining him. We are only speaking from the evidence on the trial, which does not establish any such fact satisfactorily. He had wit enough to know that his wife had been "an expensive one" to him; and, we believe, had quite wit enough to be aware he was incurring a more serious kind of cost by getting rid of her in a base and cruel way.

SAYINGS AND DOINGS.

THE MAYOR OF WINDSOR has forwarded to the Prefect of the Seine 6,600 francs subscribed by the inhabitants of Windsor for the sufferers by the inundations. A fifth remittance of 100,000 francs has also been received from the Lord Mayor of London.

SOON EXPERIMENTS are to be made in Woolwich Dockyard, for the purpose of testing the efficiency of an invention produced there by M. Pimont, for preventing the escape of the steam, and of allaying the oppressive heat produced thereby on board steamers and in factories.

THE NEW "BRIDGE OF THE ALMA," at Paris, is to be adorned with a statue at each of the four piers of the bridge, the four statues to represent soldiers of the four nations which were engaged in the Battle of the Alma.

A HARLEQUIN, NAMED CHARLTON, whose last engagement terminated shortly after Christmas, died in St. Mary's workhouse (Whitechapel) last week. When removed to the workhouse, his family were in an absolutely starving condition. Poor harlequin's death has been accelerated, if not actually produced, by want.

PARLIAMENT will be prorogued, it is thought, on Tuesday next.

THE GOVERNMENT OF THE NETHERLANDS have appointed a commission to examine what consequences are likely to ensue on cutting through the Isthmus of Suez as regards trade and navigation in general, and the trade of the Netherlands in particular; and also to report on the measures proper to be adopted under this change of circumstances.

WE UNDERSTAND THAT MARIA TARRANT, convicted at Abingdon of the murder of her infant child, and whose execution at Reading was fixed for Monday next, has been reprieved.

LODIE HARDINGE is suffering from paralysis of the whole of his left side, and he has therefore become perfectly helpless, having lost his right fore-arm. He is quite sensible, and even cheerful, under the affliction; and, on the whole, his Lordship's health is improving.

THE NIGHTINGALE FUND now approaches £35,000, of which £30,000 are invested in Government securities.

THE MARRIAGE OF THE PRINCESS LOUISA, daughter of the Prince of Prussia, with the Prince Regent of Baden, has been definitely fixed for September 30, the anniversary of the birthday of the Queen of Prussia.

TWO WORKMEN guilty of having uttered some remarks, in a workshop, reflecting upon the Emperor Napoleon, have been sentenced to five years' imprisonment and ten years' surveillance.

THE LOSSES of the American underwriters, during the last half-year, amount to nearly £3,200,000.

THE QUEEN has been pleased to erect the district of Natal, in South Africa, into a separate colony, to be called "The Colony of Natal," and to appoint Mr. John Scott to be Lieutenant-Governor of the said colony.

A RECENT "levanter" from the French Bourse, the son of a general, has been followed by one of his victims, and compelled by actual force to disgorge 40,000 francs out of the two millions which he carried away with him.

THE CHANGE OF MINISTRY AT MADRID, and the subsequent insurrectionary movement, were first made known to the inhabitants of Paris by a telegraphic communication from London.

M. OTTO GOLDSCHMIDT has forwarded a donation of £100 to the Treasury of the Royal Meheut Benevolent College, accompanied by an expression of Madame Lind Goldschmidt's deep regret that she had not been able to perform for the benefit of "this noble institution."

THE PASHA OF EGYPT has issued a decree, permitting all soldiers in his service full liberty to worship God in any way they may think proper.

A FERRILE EXPLOSION took place in Mr. Baker's firework manufactory, Baker's Grounds, Hackney Road, London, last week, whereby a boy was so dreadfully scalded that no hope is entertained of his recovery. If adults chose to risk their own lives in so dangerous a manufacture, the legislature ought certainly to interfere to prevent the lives of children being sacrificed through such an occupation.

MADAME IPA PFEIFFER is in London, en route to Madagascar. She bears a letter of introduction to the world in general from Alexander von Humboldt, the great living traveller.

THE QUEEN's late yacht Victoria and Albert, now named the Osborne, has been commissioned as a state yacht for the Lords of the Admiralty.

GENERAL WILLIAMS, of Kus, having been hardly spoken of in a pamphlet published by a Polish officer, the Turkish Government ordered the seizure of the publication, and struck the officer off the army list.

THE CITY BANKERS met on Thursday, at the desire of the Decimal Coinage Commissioners, to consider the expediency of a legislative enactment to carry out the decimal system of money. They resolved, with but one dissentient, that any legislative alteration would be undesirable. This does not say much for the intelligence of the monied interest.

A RAILWAY PORTER jumped off a train at the Waterloo station while in motion, on Monday, and fell backwards, the wheels passing over his legs. He expired shortly afterwards.

BAXARD TAYLOR, the American traveller, and Mr. Kinsell, the landscape painter, arrived at Liverpool in the Asia, on Monday.

THE COMMISSIONERS OF THE PATRIOTIC FUND report that they have received the large sum of £1,000,000. The last remittances from Sydney amounted to £25,000, making, with previous remittances, the sum of £65,000 received from the colony of New South Wales.

TWO COPPER STILLS of between sixty to seventy gallons each, a copper still head, a copper still, a melted melt mill, and other extensive apparatus for the secret manufacture of "whisky," have been seized among the hills between the Bales of Loughor and Ramroch.

BASSEY CHURCH, in Essex, erected in the reign of Edward III., and a remarkably fine specimen of the ecclesiastical architecture of the period, is about to be repaired—it should be rather said rebuilt. The estimated cost is £1,000.

A PICNIC PARTY on a rather large scale lately took place at Virginia Water. The party was given to the 1st Regiment of Life Guards, stationed at Windsor, by Colonel Parker and the officers of the Regiment.

THE ROYAL CHARTER—auxiliary screw steamer for Australia—made her first voyage in fifty-nine days.

THE DUKE OF CAMBRIDGE held his first levee, on his appointment to the Horse Guards, on Monday.

THE JEWS OF NEWCASTLE have lately had to take the dead bodies of their kindred to Sunderland for interment, owing to the crowded state of their burial-ground in the former town.

MAJOR-GENERAL SIR R. J. DAVIES, R.A., is confined to his bed by severe indisposition, and has been suffering from a return of Crimean fever and ague since his arrival in England from the East, which has prevented him from attending to any professional duties.

A NEW FRAUD has been discovered. There is reason to believe that the abstraction of feathers from beds by servant girls, for appropriation and sale, is not at all uncommon.

THE TRINITY HOUSE AUTHORITIES have decided in a Sunderland case that any pilot keeping a public-house must either give up his "branch" or drop the selling of liquor.

THE ARRIVAL of troops from the Crimea have this week been extremely large.

A NEW DEMAND has arisen—to wit, for pine apples. Large consignments have arrived; and the increasing demand for this article from the mother country is markedly improving the prospect of the planters in the Bahamas.

THE VESSEL sent out by the New York, Newfoundland, and London Telegraph Company to try to recover the submarine telegraph cable lost in the Gulf of St. Lawrence, succeeded in recovering, in good order, a large portion of the cable.

THE ASTLEY COOPER PRIZE of £300 has this year been awarded by the physicians and surgeons of Guy's Hospital to Dr. W. B. Richardson, of Manchester Square, for his essay "on the cause of the coagulation of the blood."

THREE YOUNG LADIES were drowned while bathing at Port Carlisle, last week.

MR. WILLIAM ABBOTT, clerk at the Alderley and Chorley Station of the London and North-Western Railway, has died from the effects of injuries received whilst attempting to get into a moving train, though cautioned not to attempt it.

A CHARMING ADDITION has been lately made to the attraction of the tropical end of the Crystal Palace, in a collection of 1,000 living birds, which have just arrived from South Australia. They consist mostly of the smallest Australian variegated parrots (*Melopithecus undulatus*), and are in a very hardy and healthy condition.

"LORD CARDIGAN'S BLACK BOTTLE BATTERY" is the name of an immense battery constructed of bottles at Iokermann for amusement by the remaining British soldiers; the Russians purposed erecting a similar battery opposite.

A LARGE QUANTITY of barrack furniture has been sent from Limerick garrison to Newquay, to replace that which was maliciously broken by the Tipperary Militia in that town.

THE MANTUA AND MILAN MAIL was attacked on the 12th inst., at two miles from Cremona, by twelve or fourteen brigands, and robbed of all the money it contained.

THE LOUNGER AT THE CLUBS.

It must be evident to every person who does not choose wilfully to ignore the fact, that the anecdotes and rumours related by me in these columns are gathered from the conversation of those who are most likely to be well acquainted with the topics under discussion. It must be further evident that occasionally stories which eventually turn out not to be founded on fact will creep in, but they are simply narrated as rumours, as what people are talking about, as "*on dit*," and are never vouchsafed as facts. A fortnight ago I mentioned that a story was current to the effect that Palmer, while on trial, had dropped a letter which was from Lord Derby's trainer, that the note had been handed to his Lordship, who was on the bench, and that the trainer had been dismissed. It appears that, so far as the "trainer" was concerned, the story is utterly untrue, and I hasten to make the best and only possible *amende*. Lord Derby's trainer is Mr. John Scott, of Malton, whose character is far above suspicion; indeed, no one would have dreamed of even associating him with such an act. My mistake lay in using the word "trainer," as, from the usual accuracy of the quarter from whence the anecdote came, I am certain that there is some foundation for the assertion that a letter from some person in Lord Derby's stable was dropped by Palmer. It is almost unnecessary for me to assure Mr. Scott that there was never an idea on my part of charging him with anything like an attempt at duplicity; and it is perfectly unnecessary for me to take notice of the attack upon myself by a pathos journal, which, for the credit of the press, is, I am happy to say, on its last legs, and which, though under the direction of an ex-constable's truncheon, sadly lacks a proper editorial staff.

The Chancellor of the Exchequer, pressed on every side, has been compelled to withdraw the obnoxious amended Civil Servants' Superannuation Act, and the matter is *in statu quo*, Government clerks being in neither a better nor a worse position than they were at the commencement of the session. They must not, however, desist from their efforts; they have been well backed up by Parliament and the press; and it will be their own fault if, by a cessation of agitation, they are beaten by Sir G. C. Lewis and crafty Mr. Wilson next year.

Great difference of opinion appears to exist as to whether William Dove will, or will not be hanged, though I believe well informed persons imagine that the sentence will be duly carried out. Mr. Baron Bramwell's summing-up is said not to have received due justice from the reporters; it was very lucid and clear, and much more decided against the prisoner than would be judged from a perusal of it in the newspapers. There seems to be no doubt as to Dove's sanity; that he was ill-conditioned, morose and revengeful, cannot be denied; but so half the literary men in London, and Heaven forbid their sanity should be called in question.

There is a heaviness and oppression in the air severely trying to the constitution just now, and though we have as yet been providentially preserved from cholera, there is a great deal of illness about. Town is hot and close, the beauties are looking fagged and worn-out, Parliament is on the verge of breaking up, the operas advertise their last nights, leading theatricals are taking benefits, and the close of the season is evidently rapidly approaching.

THE LITERARY LOUNGER.

THE QUARTERLY.

PRESSED for time, I can only say that the new number of the "Edinburgh Review" is one of the pleasantest that has appeared for many years, the majority of the articles being light, entertaining, and interesting. There is an article on "Samuel Rogers," based on the "Table Talk" of Mr. Dyce, which gives a clearer insight into the habits, peculiarities and early life of the author of the "Pleasures of Memory," than any account which has yet appeared; and is evidently from the pen of one of Rogers's intimate friends. Sir G. C. Lewis's "Credibility of Early Roman History," is set down as an admirable specimen of analytical writing, and his censorship generally is much commended. A review of the "Diary of General Patrick Gordon," translated from the German, tells us that a cadet of Lord Aberdeen's family was the intimate friend and adviser of Peter the Great, and the original instigator of the policy of Russia towards Turkey in 1835. The "Post Office Directory," and a series of maps, form the groundwork for a paper on the wonderful extent and rapid growth of the Metropolis. There is a numismatic article on the "Coins of Greece," a review of Heine and his translators, and some political and legal essays.

Dr. Forbes Winslow's Quarterly—the "Journal of Psychological Medicine and Mental Pathology"—is far more interesting reading than nine people out of ten would imagine. The article on Dreams and Apparitions is alike clever and amusing. The review of Dr. Boismont's work on suicide abounds with curious facts and anecdotes, and the Essay on William Palmer contains some sensible writing. The following opinion, proceeding as it does from a medical man of position, is deserving of grave consideration:—

"But before chemical evidence can ever be relied on in a court of law, we must have a chemical board, publicly appointed and legitimately authorized, to make these chemical experiments; and, for the future, no single man, nor even several men, however eminent their position or undoubted their skill, should be entrusted with such important and delicate investigations. Should not the accused person be represented at this chemical board? We would not trust ourselves in any analytical man's hands, however he might be; and, in truth, if we were on the jury, we would never find a verdict of wilful murder against a person upon the sole lips of one analytical chemist, who secretly performed his investigations in his private laboratory, and then alleged that he had, after long boiling down a man's liver, lungs, spleen, and heart, detected the 50,000th part of a grain, or even half a grain, of arsenic, strychnine, or antimony. The idea is monstrous; the precedent, if allowed, pernicious to the last degree; and no life is safe under such an irresponsible mode of proceeding. These delicate investigations should be in the hands not of a private chemist who may be retained on either side, but of a public, acknowledged, and responsible board of independent and skilful men, whose minds cannot be prejudiced one way or the other."

I purpose giving notice of the "Quarterly," "Westminster," &c., next week.

THE THEATRICAL LOUNGER.

MR. BERNARD's extremely silly two-act comedy, "Born to Good Luck," which was originally redeemed from obscurity by the acting of Mr. Power, was produced at the Adelphi on Monday, for the purpose of introducing Mr. Barney Williams as the hero. Mr. Williams is the best Irishman on the stage, with a good-tempered face, true Hibernian blue eyes, and a rich, rolling brogue. He seemed to give the greatest delight to the audience, who laughed at the coarse jokes with which the piece is sullied most heartily.

THE ENCROACHMENTS OF CRINOLINE.—The sterner sex, usually indifferent to the vagaries of female fashion, has at length been driven from its passivity by the lawless intrusions of crinoline, which now carry confusion into the heart of every drawing-room. In fact, as the "Examiner" has well said, a drawing-room now looks like a camp. You see a number of bell tents of different colours, the poles sustaining them appearing at the summit. These are the signs of habitation. You see who lives in a particular tent, but the whereabouts it is not easy to determine. Certainly there is a law in fashions, if one could but find it out. They have their cycles like storms, and science might calculate the periods of their recurrence. Invention or fancy there is none in fashion; nothing is new. An old thing comes in again. Thus the hoop comes round again in rather an aggravated shape of enormity. But if there be expansion in one quarter, be sure there will be contraction in another, for such compensations belong to the scheme of things. Thus, while the bonnet has been dwindling away, the petticoat has been expanding, engrossing, and pervading all space. The one is mathematically the complement to the other. The bonnet is now hardly visible to the naked eye, while the petticoat fills the view like a mountain of millinery. The ebbs and flows of the bonnet and petticoat are as regular as those of the tides at opposite ends of the globe. When the one is waning the other is increasing, and so on. When bonnets were worn considerably larger than coat scutelles, but of the same fancy and figure, petticoats were so scanty and so short as to give assurance to the world that ladies had feet and ankles, a fact, the evidences of which have lately disappeared. And so it will be again. And when the enormity of the petticoat has exceeded all bounds of endurance, when things have come to such a pass where pass is none, that one lady exclusively fills and occupies one moderately-sized room, the thing will begin to shrink and go to bonnet instead, and it will be all top instead of what it is now, which is quite the reverse. Surely, there must be means of evading the scourge. Is there not power of repression under the Building Act?

EXHIBITION OF ART TREASURES OF THE UNITED KINGDOM AT MANCHESTER.

THE CITY of Manchester has ever been foremost in works of civilisation and progress; and among those to whom the energy of her leading inhabitants is known, it was a matter of wonder that she allowed her sisters of Dublin and Paris to follow the lead taken by the metropolis in 1851 without some pretensions to a similar display of energy. Though, however, she has bided her time, by the prospectus which she now puts forth, we shall be surprised if she do not reap to herself more glory than almost any of the others, for she has prescribed for herself being at once striking and original. At the "World's Fair," held in Hyde Park in 1851, either from remissness or want of opportunity, we English made but a poor show as far as regarded matters of *style*. We had gigantic steam-engines, admirable cotton prints, splendid agricultural implements, &c., but in the finer and more delicate works of art, painting, sculpture, and evidences of refinement generally, we were woefully behindhand. It is the object of the magistrates of Manchester to show to the world that it was by chance, and by chance alone, that we fared so ill in 1851; that there are in this land, and comprised among the collections of our nobility and gentry, some of the most magnificent examples of painting, sculpture, and artistic objects generally, which the world can produce; and by their exhibition they will endeavour to foster the popular taste to a proper appreciation of these treasures. The notion once having been started, the committee had the honour of an interview with Prince Albert, who entered into their views with great spirit, and whose letter to Lord Ellesmere on the subject we now print—

"Manchester enters upon this undertaking at a certain disadvantage. It has been preceded by the Exhibition of 1851, that of Dublin in 1853, and that at Paris during the last year. That a mere repetition of what has thus gone before would fail to attract sufficient notice and public support, appears to have been felt by the committee, and they most wisely gave a distinctive character to their scheme by making it an exhibition of what may emphatically be called the art treasures of this country. How to succeed in collecting such treasures, fondly cherished as they are by their owners, who are justly jealous of their safety, is the problem to be solved."

"In my opinion, the solution will be found in the satisfactory proof of the usefulness of the undertaking. The mere gratification of public curiosity, and the giving an intellectual entertainment to the dense population of a particular locality, would be praiseworthy in itself, but hardly sufficient to convince the owners of works of art that it is their duty, at a certain risk and inconvenience, to send the choicer treasures to Manchester for exhibition.

"That national usefulness might, however, be found in the educational direction which may be given to the whole scheme. No country invests a larger amount of capital in works of art of all kinds than England; and in none almost is so little done for art education! If the collection you propose to form were made to illustrate the history of art, in a chronological and systematic arrangement, it would speak powerfully to the public mind, and enable, in a practical way, the most uneducated eye to gather the lessons which ages of thought and scientific research have attempted to abstract; and would present to the world, for the first time, a gallery such as no other country could produce, but for which, I feel convinced, the materials exist abundantly in private hands amongst us."

"As far as painting is concerned, I enclose a catalogue exhibiting all the different schools, with the masters who illustrate them, which able hands have compiled for me, and which was communicated to the National Gallery Committee of 1853, and printed by them with the evidence.

"If such a catalogue, for instance, were filled up with the specimens of the best paintings by the different masters enumerated in it, which exist in this country, I feel certain that the committee would come with very different powers of persuasion, and a very different claim to attention to their owners, than when the demand for the loan of certain of their pictures were apparently dependent upon mere accident or caprice. A person who would not otherwise be inclined to part with a picture, would probably shrink from refusing it, if he knew that his doing so tended to mar the realisation of a great national object.

"The same principle might be adopted with regard to the other branches of art, extending even to the field of manufacturing industry.

"Whatever may be the decision of the committee, I assure you that it will give me the greatest pleasure to give you any feeble assistance in support which I may be enabled to render. And I may, at the same time, repeat to you the assurance of the Queen's best wishes for the support of your success."

We this week engrave a view of the building which has been decided on by the Directors, and which will be formed of corrugated iron, with a brick facade. It will consist of a central hall, 56 feet wide, 65 feet high, with aisles at each side formed by columns 24 feet apart, so that the actual width from side to side of the external walls will be 100 feet. At either side of the aisles are picture galleries, 700 feet long, 48 feet wide, and 33 feet to the spring of the arches. These picture galleries are lit from above, after the plan adopted in the Dublin Exhibition; they present one unbroken vista from end to end; but there are partitions with arched openings at intervals, which serve for the purpose of classifying and arranging the schools of art, and prevent the eye from becoming wearied. One side of the galleries will be devoted to Ancient Masters, the other to Modern Schools. The central hall will be appropriated to the exhibition of large objects, such as armour, decorative furniture, sculpture &c. The Committee have received promises of the warmest support from the principal picture owners in the country. The Dukes of Northumberland and Manchester; Lords Ward, Ashburton, Wharncliffe, and Faversham; Messrs. Tomlin, Labouchere, and a host of other noblemen and gentlemen having promised to lend their countenance to the Exhibition. The general management of affairs is entrusted to J. C. Boone, to whose talent and industry the greatest portion of the success of the Dublin Exhibition may be accredited.

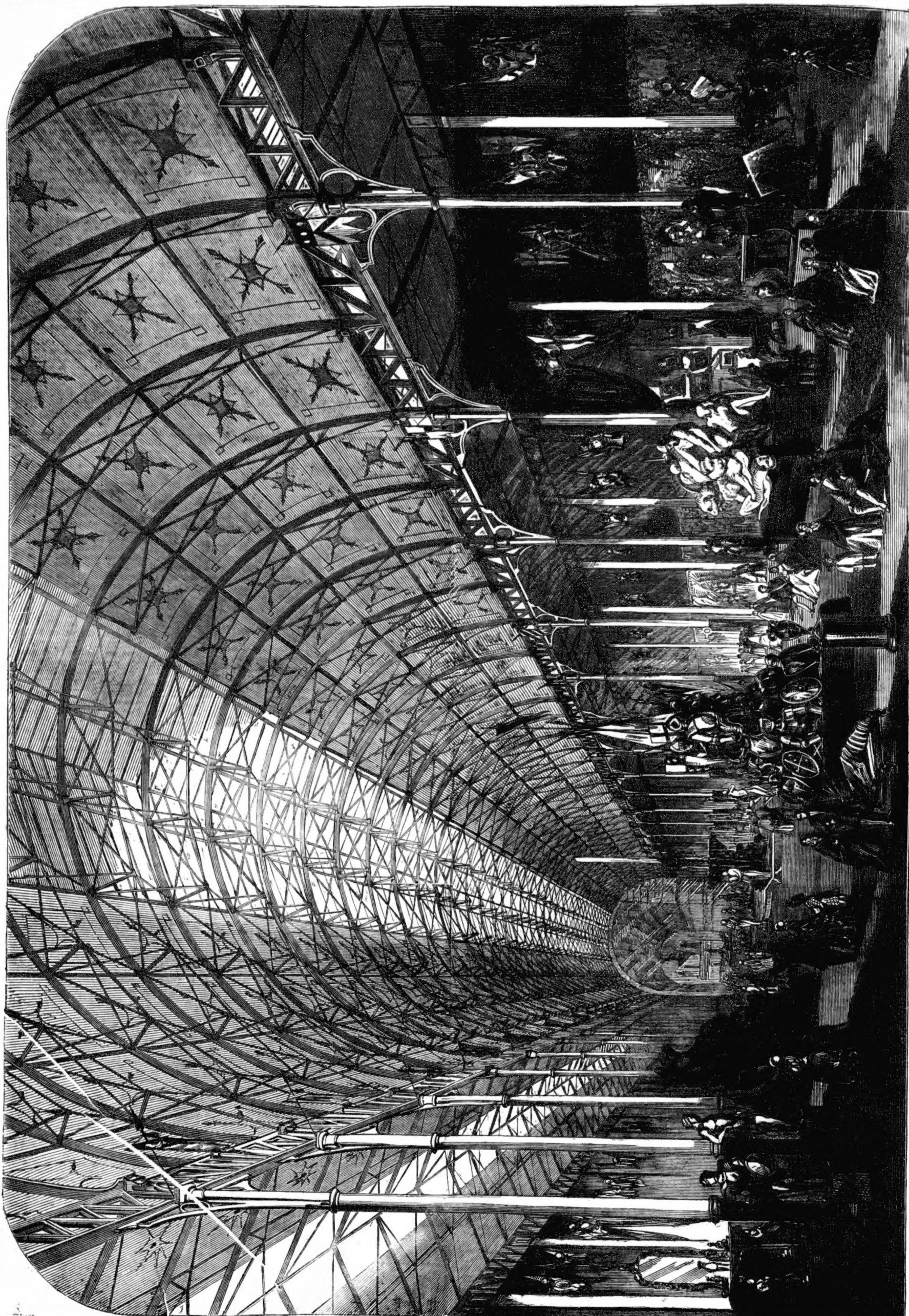
THE HERTFORD AND WARE BANK has stopped payment. Nothing has transpired with regard to the prospects of liquidation.

MR. CHARLES MATHEWS.—Mr. Charles Mathews, the comedian, is about to make his appearance before the County Court Judge at Lancaster, having filed his schedule under the Insolvent Debtors' Act. The document, which is filed for public inspection, contains a number of creditors. The debts, in the aggregate, are set forth at £9,751. Of that sum, £626 are without consideration. Owards of £1,000 are more than once entered in the schedule, reducing the debts for which value had been received to £7,551, incurred from June 1854. The insolvency is attributed to the "unfortunate speculation in the Lyceum Theatre, and the renewal of old debts under his bankruptcy." Mr. Mathews was arrested on the 4th inst., at Preston, and taken to Lancaster Castle, where he will remain until his hearing, at the beginning of next month. The schedule discloses the speculations at the Lyceum Theatre, and the position of Mr. Mathews when he resumed the lessorship of that establishment. The startling announcement is made of a loss of £5,000 by the Lyceum Theatre. Among the creditors of the schedule are several members of the "corps dramatique."

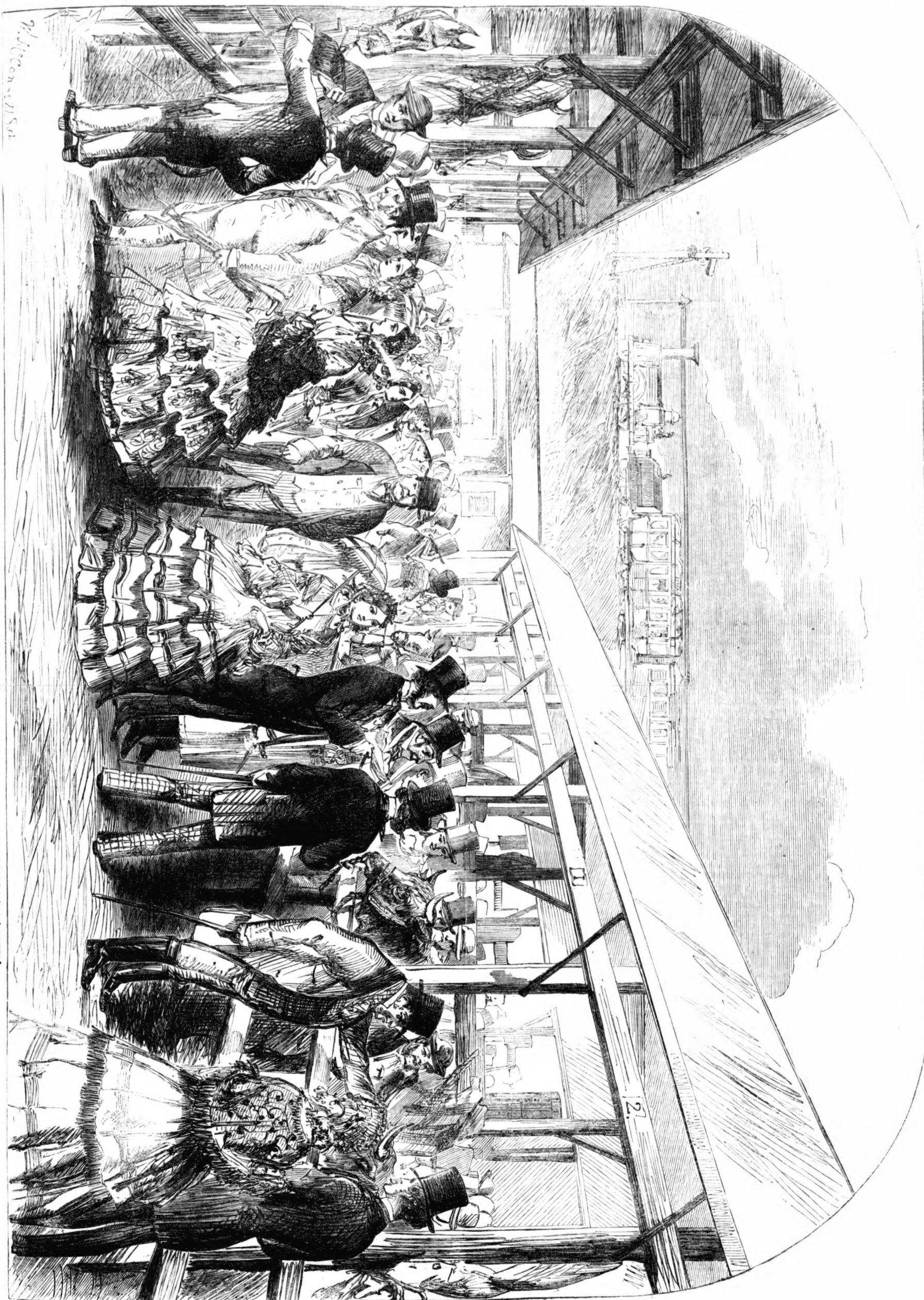
REPORT ON IRISH FISHERIES.—The report of the Commissioners of Fisheries in Ireland for the year 1855 has just been made to the Lord Lieutenant of that kingdom, and published by order of Parliament. Much difficulty exists in obtaining satisfactory statistical information with regard to the number of persons engaged in the deep-sea fisheries. The Commissioners regret to state that this branch of the national industry is not in the prosperous condition which could be desired. As regards the inland or salmon fisheries, they announce that these are progressing and rapidly improving, and that the local boards of conservators are exerting themselves with zeal and success in carrying out the laws, which are generally approved. The experiments commenced for the artificial propagation of salmon continue to be followed up by several, who laudably persevere in endeavouring to render it applicable on a large scale for general advantage. Much, it is thought, must depend upon the proper management of the young fish up to the time of their enlargement from the artificial ponds; and the Commissioners still incline to the belief that they should not be detained very long. It yet remains to be proved to what extent the commercial value of the salmon fisheries may be increased by such means beyond that which arises from the ordinary operations of nature.

THE POST OFFICE.—A number of letter-sorters from the General Post Office have been instructing the clerks in the large post offices in the North of England in the new method of sorting letters for London into districts according to their addresses. London and its neighbourhood are now divided into ten postal districts. In these districts there are about 5,000 streets, squares, courts, alleys, villages, and hamlets. The districts are arranged according to their geographical position. The object of sorting letters into districts in the provinces is to save time in London, and to accelerate their distribution.

WHAT IT COSTS FOR MILK.—Estimates have been made of the quantity of milk used in the United Kingdom, which may well astonish by their vastness, amounting in some cases to 1,350 million quarts annually. Assuming that milch cows yield seven quarts as a daily average, and that the retail price is 3d. per quart, 150,000 cows would be required to meet the demand, and the retail value would amount to the enormous sum of £14,000,000 per annum. The dairy cows of London yield a larger quantity of milk than the above-mentioned average—at least nine quarts daily—and the number is about 24,000; it follows that the quantity of milk consumed is about 80 millions of quarts annually, which will amount in value to £1,600,000.



INTERIOR OF THE BUILDING FOR THE PROPOSED ART-TREASURE EXHIBITION AT MANCHESTER.



OPERA, CONCERTS, ETC.

PICCOLOMINI continues to be the great attraction at her Majesty's Theatre. Whenever the "Traviata" or "Figlia del Reggimento" is announced, the theatre is crowded, and the inspired young vocalist is applauded from her *entrée* to her exit. Calzolari as "Tonio" in the latter opera, has also found numerous admirers, and his air with chorus in the first act is always encored. The air is unimportant, and even common-place, and the encore is awarded to this very gentle and slightly feeble tenor for a passage which he sings in the falsetto, and which he executes with more evenness than is generally the case under such circumstances. Tenors would do well to remember, when they are applauded for these unnecessary, and to us offensive exploits, that Herr Van Joel has often earned just as much noisy approbation as they are likely to obtain, by precisely similar acts of vocal gymnastics. It would be well for persons who really love a pure style of singing, who dislike what is called the "cadenza fallacy," and who abhor what might be called the "falsetto offence," to combine and form a regular association for the suppression of those unnatural noises which proceed from the heads of "light tenors." It should be called the Anti-falsetto Society, and every member should be provided with a powerful whistle to enable him to meet the head notes of his victim in an appropriate manner. Such a society would do good to a tenor like Calzolari, who has an agreeable voice and an excellent method, and consequently no excuse for resorting to the whining practice of which we complain, and for which the day has now gone by.

The appearance of Mademoiselle Wagner, on Tuesday evening, in "Tancré," was successful as far as applause goes, but we doubt whether that opera will be more productive to the management than "I Montecchi." "Tancré" now possesses quite an historical interest. It is one of Rossini's earliest operas, and was originally produced in 1812. Mr. Lumley's play bills announced it as not having been represented in London for eighteen years. This, however, is an error. It was played at Covent Garden just after Alboni had made so successful a *début*, and, indeed, many of those who heard Wagner on Monday evening could not avoid making comparisons between her singing and that of the great Italian contralto, who has since promoted herself—if promotion it be—to the position of soprano, and who sings the music of Rossini better than any one on the stage. Wagner looked very well in her helmet, and above all in the white cloak to which she is so partial, and which appears to occupy so large a portion of her thoughts when she is supposed to be lamenting the death of Juliet in the last scene of "I Montecchi." That she sings the florid and bravura music in which "Tancré" abounds, with any thing like facility, it would be erroneous to assert, but she does sing it with a certain amount of feeling, and with an impressiveness which we have before mentioned as one of her principal qualities. The worst of it is, that this impressiveness seldom characterizes her execution of an entire air, and even when particular passages of her singing are impressive, it must be admitted that her phrases are often more impressive than her passages and her notes than her phrases. It is a strange fact that with all Wagner's attention to detail we have so little delicacy. The two qualities are so generally found united, in every kind of art—that we had almost persuaded ourselves they must be inseparable. Of course, Wagner's "Di tanti palpiti," which was Madame Pasta's great air, and the last air she ever sang in this country, was encored, and with a rapture which was not altogether excited, either by the singer or by the melody itself, lovely as it is. It must have recalled too many associations to the minds of the older members of the audience, not to have appealed to them with more force than it could derive simply from its own intrinsic beauty.

The overture which some years since used to be inflicted on us by so many precocious pianists, was executed with a great deal of what the French call *entraîne*. The final movement, as might have been expected, was encored. Altogether, this performance had an historical and associative charm about it, which made it one of the most pleasant of the season. Whether it will have a "run," is a different question.

At the Lyceum, Rigoletto, Lucrezia Borgia, and the Elixir d'Amore have been given during the past week. Mario and Bosio in the first named opera, sang with their usual success in what are repectively their best parts. "Lucrezia Borgia," with Grisi, Mario, and Ronconi, was played as if in answer to the challenge of the other house, where it had been given the week before with but little success.

The last of the Crystal Palace concerts takes place next Friday. The principal feature in that of last week was the execution of Rossini's exquisite chorus "La Carita," which was admirably rendered.

Madame Ristori, who has been performing at Liverpool and Manchester, with a success, which, coming from such highly commercial populations, will not probably be of the highest value to her in an artistic point of view, is to give four more representations in London. In fact the first was announced for Friday evening. She next goes to Dieppe and Rouen, after which she will start for Turin without appearing at all in Paris. Her success at the Lyceum will be an earnest to her of what it may be next year at the new Covent Garden Theatre, which it is said will be opened in time for the next opera season.

THE CERAMIC COURT AT THE CRYSTAL PALACE.

THE Ceramic is the first of a series of courts which it is intended to form at the Crystal Palace for the illustration of art in application to manufactures. The Ceramic art is, perhaps, one of the oldest that exists; for instance, we have no authentic records of the Etruscans, and all that we know of the high state of civilisation at which they must undoubtedly have arrived, is derived from the magnificent specimens of pottery which they have left behind, and which prove them to have been a nation of the highest refinement.

When the whole court is complete—for several compartments are as yet unopened—it will contain a collection illustrating the arts of pottery from the earliest period, from the Chinese and Babylonian to the Sevres, Dresden, and Wedgwood earthenware of the present day.

The earliest Chinese specimens date as far back as B.C. 2,500; although one of the most interesting specimens will probably be considered the model of the Porcelain Tower at Nankin (A.D. 1,277).

Among the Egyptian specimens we have the figures in the catacombs of Thebes, and a series of panels illustrating the Egyptian process of manufacture.

Then we have the Greco-Etruscan vases, from 1,500 to 500. The Celtic Pottery, i.e., France, Germany, and Denmark, and the Hard Pottery of Mexico, Guatemala, and Yucatan, the date of which is uncertain.

About 150 years after the Christian era, the potters' art is principally represented by the water jars, amphore, &c., of the Romans.

The Arabian specimens (700 to 1,300) include the glazed and unglazed ware of Persia, Italy, and Spain, especially the Alhambra; jars, drinking cups, vases, enamelled tiles, &c.

In the Italian pottery (1,400 to 1,500) we find the Lucca, Della Rabbia, Terra Cotta, and Majolica ware.

The stone pottery of the Rhine, which is ornamented in relief, dates from 1,500 to 1,550.

Bernard Palissy, the most celebrated of all, lends his name to the ware which gave an especial celebrity to France at the end of the 16th century, and which extended to the 18th. French pottery during the 18th century is principally represented by the Faience of Nevers, and the porcelain of St. Cloud and Sevres. The admirable collection of Sevres porcelain constitutes one of the greatest attractions of the Ceramic Court. With their utility we have nothing to do, for any one who would dream of making use of such exquisite and such fragile works of art, would either be a madman or twenty times a millionaire. The designs of the Sevres porcelain have never been equalled—certainly not in modern times; while the material in which it is worked is to pottery in general what marble is to sculpture. English earthenware is represented in no inglorious manner by the brown stoneware of Edward the Sixth, the Elizabethan, Queen Anne, and Chelsea ware, and in the present day by the Worcester porcelain and the vases, jasper ware, cameos, and earthenware in general of Wedgwood; but it is impossible to compete with an establishment which, like that of Sevres, is supported

at the Government expense, and supported, too, with that liberality which has always characterised the Government of France, when there has been any question of patronising art, no matter of what kind. There is scarcely any political reproach which has not been addressed to the French ruling powers by the people or its representatives; but we never yet knew of an instance in which the least opposition was evinced towards the Government in France when it proposed votes of money for the encouragement of literature, music, or design, whether pictorial or plastic. In spite of republics and revolutions, the Sevres manufactory is still conducted in a thoroughly grand style. The persons employed in it are artists, and have no sort of commercial interest in what they produce; all are sworn to reveal no secret of the various processes employed. The masterpieces which issue from the establishment are either placed in the Museum to excite the wonder and admiration of foreign nations, and to serve as a standard of the manufacture of porcelain at home, or forwarded as presents to the great European monarchs. It is true that numerous specimens of porcelain are sold at Sevres, and for prices which to the ignorant in matters of pottery would appear exorbitant, but every one of these articles possesses some flaw, imperceptible as it may be to the inexperienced eye. But to deserve a place in the most obscure corner of the museum, or to be eligible for presentation even to the smallest German prince, it is necessary that each specimen of porcelain should be perfect. It is true that this perfection is almost disheartening from the idea it suggests to us in reference to the difficulty with which it must have been obtained. Besides, nothing in this world, which is really beautiful, is quite perfect, and every one of Raphael's virgins has notoriously a slight cast in her eye; but after all, those who object to a complete and recognised specimen of Sevres porcelain (which in default of belonging to some royal family they could never obtain) may always console themselves by paying a ruinous sum for an article which contains a slight flaw.

We have said that the Ceramic Court is not yet complete. Many of the shelves, which are destined to be filled with the most interesting specimens, are at present empty, and Mr. Battam's reproductions of Elginian ware, which in themselves would form an interesting gallery, have not yet been exhibited in anything like completeness, although many valuable objects have been contributed from the private collections of Mr. Danby Seymour, the Hon. General Lygon, and Mr. Isaac Falke.

We must not conclude without calling attention to the works of Lucia della Rabbia, whose masterpieces are to be found at the Hôtel Cluny, and to the Majolica collection, which is the first of its kind ever brought together. The Majolica manufacture obtained its greatest celebrity under the Dukes of Urbino, and its most brilliant period was in the middle of the sixteenth century, when the designs of Raphael and his pupils were reproduced with the most admirable skill.

LAW AND CRIME.

SOME months ago Mr. G. A. Sala contributed to "Household Words" a startling and terrible sketch, entitled "Gibbet Street." The writer described a locality situated in the midst of theatrical London, and therefore not easily to be overlooked by members of any class of society; a street in which theft, robbery, and brutal violence were continually and habitually perpetrated in open day; a street the inhabitants of which sought, by combination, increased strength in the warfare which each individually waged against property and civilisation. No doubt many a country gentleman shook his head gravely at the article, and disconcerted deprecatingly upon "Mr. Dickens's habit of exaggeration." But many London people recognised the hideous picture as a simple photograph of Charles Street, Drury Lane.

One would have thought such a revelation, if necessary, as the existence of this subject proved it to be, would have instantly called forth prompt and energetic action on the part of the authorities. Perhaps in no other city of Europe would such a dangerous nuisance be allowed to exist for a week. But with our police the system is different. They like to know, to concentrate, and even to encourage "thieves' haunts," in order to be able to drop conveniently upon any subject who may be "wanted."

Last week a foreign gentleman named Abé was waylaid by two girls in Charles-street, under pretence of being shown his way to a street in quite a different direction, for which he had inquired of them. Arrived in Charles Street, he met, as a stranger, with the usual reception, being half strangled, knocked down, robbed, and brutally kicked in the presence of about forty or fifty of the settlers. It happened, however, in this case, that a witness who knew the perpetrators of the outrage (in Charles Street as in the Inns of Court, everybody knows everybody else) gave information to the police, and the culprits were quickly arrested.

Some days after, half-a-dozen human creatures of the lowest type were brought to Bow Street for creating a riotous disturbance in this same Charles Street. It appeared that a raffle had been held among the principal inhabitants, who, having got madly drunk, had taken to fighting amongst themselves. The object of the raffle, it now appears, had been to provide funds for the legal defence of their fellow who had attacked Mr. Abé. It is pleasant to know that such associations exist among metropolitan thieves and desperadoes; it is more delightful still to be assured that the money thus obtained will be thankfully received by a gentleman addressed as "brother" by the Judges of her Majesty's court, and ranking as an esquire by right in English society, who will in return devote his time, talent, and learning to the great task of obtaining the discharge of the cowardly and cruel banditti concerning whose character, manners, and customs, the foreign gentleman learned so much in a single short interview.

Nothing would be easier (except letting them alone, which will be done) than to disperse the tribe of savages who have thus established an exclusive encampment in a London street. A police station in its centre, a continual patrol, would effect the purpose in a fortnight. A notice board at its corner, warning passengers not to enter it, or a change of name into Thieves' Street, Garrotte Street, or Gibbet Street (which the Metropolitan Commissioners might direct at any moment), would be only a precaution to the pedestrian public, if Charles Street, Drury Lane, is still to continue a police preserve.

Two cases of brutality appeared a few days ago in the papers, as having been decided on the same day at the same court: Marlborough Street, George Bishop and John Middle were each respectively charged with ill-usage of the woman with whom he lived. Bishop had all but murdered his victim with a poker, with which he had repeatedly struck her on the head, and had confined his ill-treatment by blows and kicks, according to the modern custom, while she lay bleeding and senseless. Middle appears only to have behaved in the usual way, and not to have added to his pleasures the employment of a murderous weapon. Middle was sentenced to four months' hard labour, and Bishop to three, by the same magistrate. This seems strange, but the daily papers record the fact.

Concerning these constantly recurring cases of barbarity towards women—usually by heavy beer drinkers, not by spirituous drunkards—a theory might be adduced which would in some degree account for the extraordinary state of mind they display. It is somewhat more than possible that the beer has more to do with the matter than the mere causation of a drunken fit. Not the beer which the wealthy man receives in calls from his brewer, not the beer which the domestic servant fetches at meal-times from the public-house at the corner, but the poisonous, nauseous mixture, diluted, drugged, and adulterated, which the keeper of the filthy beer-shop, or the landlord of the glittering gin-palace, dispenses to his miserable customers in the low neighbourhood. That various abnormal conditions of the mind, from helpless stupidity to fierce maniacal fury, can be caused by the addition of certain brain-poisons to beverages which, in the pure state, would simply intoxicate by exhilaration, can scarcely be denied. That the drinking of beer reeking with such ingredients as quassia and caeruleus iudicus, engenders a state of mind in which a reckless, savage determination to injure the weak forms the predominant idea, is a physiological hypothesis which the daily experience of our police courts might tend in no small degree to support.

A visitor to a well-known concert-tavern in Fleet-street, finding himself and a friend debited with three shillings for six glasses of ale, remonstrated with the waiter, who thereupon at once cast off the mask of servility, and

(according to the evidence) blacked the eye of the visitor, finally dinging him heavily into the street, and fracturing his skull. The defence for the overcharge (that as to the assault was reserved), was, that the proprietor wished for a high class of customers. Hereupon Alderman Carden, the presiding justice, exhibited some tact. Recalling the prosecutor, he elicited from him that the invitation to the tavern had been given in a hand-bill, of which a man was distributing copies to all passers-by who chose to accept them. Hereon the alderman made a very strong and proper observation, and the waiter was committed for trial. It seems to us, that if the price of a glass of ale be a matter entirely at the discretion of the landlord of a tavern, then sixpence is a very moderate charge, as, by the same rule, he might just as easily demand six pounds, nine pounds eighteen and three pence, or any other fanciful sum. It may, therefore, be useful to inform intending visitors to similar places of entertainment that any overcharge of the kind can be recovered through the County Court after payment, should the customer survive his visit.

The evidence on behalf of the prisoner Dove, although it failed to procure his acquittal, has led to a recommendation to mercy on the part of the jury. This is singular; as, if there was anything in the allegation of insanity, it should have procured a verdict of Not guilty. The verdict now stands, in effect, "Guilty, but recommended to mercy as not guilty, on the ground of insanity." This case has exhibited in its latest development a principle which forbodes much mischief, namely, an undue bias in favour of medical testimony. Without depreciating the medical profession, it has nothing to do with a criminal case in which alleged insanity forms an incident. A man's neighbours and friends, the witnesses of his acts, even the jury in the box, are in such a case quite as well qualified to judge of his moral and legal responsibility as medical keepers of lunatic asylums, who deduce, from madmen being occasionally eccentric, that occasionally eccentric people must be mad.

A medical man has no other method of forming an opinion as to soundness of mind than that of inference from the patient's acts, and from these others can infer as judiciously as the doctor. It is not a matter of pulse-taking, tongue inspection, or bodily diagnosis, but of simple rational investigation, and the less juries allow themselves to be prejudiced by the opinions of men called only because known to entertain such opinions, the better it will be for the respectability of our public administration of justice.

The most remarkable police case of the week appears to be the charge preferred against a "gentleman" and "member of the Army and Navy Club," for an assault and conspiracy. It is the story of Captain Hawk and Mr. Pigeon over again. Hawk, however, instead of boldly alighting upon his quarry, had recourse to stratagem, and procured the confinement of poor Pigeon in a cage ere he made a set at him. Pigeon, though the most harmless of birds, proved, nevertheless, more than a match for Hawk, and escaped with hardly a ruffle to his feathers. Pigeon, it seems, was entrapped by another of the Hawk tribe—a mysterious bird muffled in a cloak, who arrested him on some sham process for some sham debt, and who, when Pigeon was in safe custody and face to face with Captain Hawk, withdrew. Hawk thereupon works on Pigeon's fears, "commencing with a tirade of abuse and slander," then on his appetites, and offers him bread and water, which Pigeon wisely refuses, on the score of not being thirsty. Hawk next attacks him through his powers of endurance, and offers to let him go to sleep on certain conditions. Pigeon still declines, and Hawk is forced to content himself by exacting a promise that he will tell nobody of what has passed—a promise which we were glad to perceive Mr. Pigeon did not feel himself bound to respect.

EXTRAORDINARY CHARGE OF ASSAULT AND CONSPIRACY.

On Tuesday, Robert Johnston, of the Army and Navy Club, and 29, Welbeck's County Terrace, described as a gentleman, was summoned before Mr. Beeton, at the Marlborough Street Police Court, charged with assaulting William Kay, a gentleman of fortune, residing at No. 36, Hill Street, Berkley Square.

Mr. Bodkin detailed the case for the complainant. Mr. Kay, he said, who is now 20 years of age, and possessed of considerable fortune, unfortunately became the new slave or acquaintance of the defendant when he was about 14 or 15 years of age, and was led to the Continent, where money may easily be expended. The defendant, assisted by two other persons, having contrived to get from him securities to the amount of £50,000 or £60,000, his friends interceded. They applied to Mr. Galworthy, a respectable solicitor, who, by his promptitude in filing a bill in Chancery, obtained two decrees whereby all the deeds, bills, and securities acquired by fraud and conspiracy were made void and set aside. I mention this, said Mr. Bodkin, in order that the court may understand clearly the nature of the case, and the position in which the parties relatively stand towards each other. One night, as Mr. Kay was proceeding to his house in Hill Street, he was stopped by a man muffled in a cloak which concealed his features, who asked him if his name was Kay, and being told it was, said—"I arrest you for debt." He replied he owed no debt he could be arrested for. The man answered, "Your wife does." The complainant was arrested; he was not allowed to go into his house, but he was taken in a cab to a house at the west-end of the town. He was placed in a room on the ground floor, and the man disappeared, locking him in the room. The complainant sat down to write a letter to his solicitor; while thus engaged the door was opened, and the defendant Johnston came in. The complainant naturally said, "Why have I been arrested for debt?" The defendant replied, "The arrest is all sham; it was only made for the purpose of getting you here." The defendant then locked the door and commenced a tirade of abuse and slander of the characters of certain parties, afterwards making overtures to revive the association that had already proved so ruinous to Kay. The defendant Johnston would not permit Kay to depart without extorting a pledge that he would write to him and ask him to dine in some place, when they could thus arrange as to get the Court of Chancery decrees modified in some way. Now, a promise so obtained, neither in law nor honour, is binding. As soon as Kay obtained his liberty he sought advice, and in consequence of that step the defendant is here before you. The complainant Kay was imprisoned three hours—from twelve at night until three in the morning. This appears to me to be a serious and scandalous outrage, and I think I am justified in calling on you to ask Johnston to find good bail to answer such charge as may be preferred against him in another court.

The complainant, a young man of mild and diffident aspect, was here called into court, and described his arrest, imprisonment, &c., &c., exactly in accordance with Mr. Bodkin's statement. With respect to the defendant's object for the *cause*, Mr. Kay stated that Johnston wished him to refer the matters between them to arbitration, and set aside the judgment that had been obtained. He mentioned the name of a person to whom he wished the matter to be referred. Complainant would not agree, and said he would abide by the determination at which the Court of Chancery had arrived. Johnston then left the room for a minute or two, and locked it outside. He said to complainant, "You shall stay here until you consent to do what I want you to do." Mr. Kay at length made the promises required of him, and was then allowed to go home, after being detained in the house about three hours.

Mr. Robinson, for the defendant, said he hardly knew what course to pursue, as the two charges of assault and conspiracy had been mixed up together. With regard to the assault, he had to submit to the court that no co-conspirator had been used, and that no one laid hands on the complainant.

The Magistrate said the lock was turned on him, and that certainly was an assault. He did not know how the matter of the fictitious arrest might turn out. It would be a very serious business if an illegal process had been resorted to for ulterior objects.

Mr. Robinson—It was only a ruse to procure an interview.

Mr. Bodkin pressed the magistrate to order the defendant to find bail to meet the charge of conspiracy. After some discussion, it was understood that the assault was to be disposed of by the defendant entering into his own recognizances to keep the peace, and that a summons to answer a charge of conspiracy was to be served on him in court.

POLICE

PECULIAR CHARGE.—Dr. John Ince, of 4, Bayner Street, Chelsea, was charged at Hammersmith with having broken into the house of Mrs. Catherine Elizabeth Ince, his wife, a lady of large property, from whom he lives separate, and caused a breach of the peace.

The complainant's solicitor had no desire to go into the case—he simply wanted sureties that his client should not be again molested by the defendant.

The magistrate said it would be necessary to take a few words from the lady.

Mrs. Ince said that her husband broke into her house, and made use of language and gestures which frightened her very much.

Defendant replied that he only wished to enter his protest against the truth of his wife's statement.

Mrs. Ince's solicitor said that if the facts were denied, defendant would come reluctantly to go into the details; upon which,

Mr. Pynster having suggested the propriety of his undertaking to keep the peace by sureties, defendant consented, and put in bail.

THE NEPHEW OF THE HON. MR. NORTON IN TROUBLE.—Alfred May, alias Grin, alias Norton, and also known to the police by the names of "Mad" Dashwood, Smith, and Stanhope, who was remanded on a charge of stealing a ton of lead, was again placed at the bar.

The Court was crowded by the prisoner's victims, whom he plundered in this way. He would take a house, giving "unexceptionable references," and commonly representing himself to be the nephew of the Hon. Mr. Norton. He would then strip the houses of the lead, in some cases considerably substituting them.

A constable also traced a case of obtaining a quantity of jewellery from Mr. Graham's in the Strand.—The prisoner was committed for trial.

A PEACEFUL PHYSICIAN.—Dr. John Bletherhasset Godfrey, a physician of Mount Place, Whitechapel Road, was charged with letting off fireworks on the night of the 4th of July, being the anniversary of Eborac Fair.

The defendant did not appear, although his solicitor had previously asked adjournment from Wednesday until Saturday.

Dr. Godfrey and his friends have been in the habit of discharging large quantities of fireworks from his house in Mount Place, near the London Hospital, for many years on the first Friday in July. Last year Dr. Godfrey was summoned for a similar offence. On this occasion also he discharged a large quantity of Roman candles, rockets, blue lights, and other fireworks from his house in the main road, and at his neighbour's opposite, who fired at him in return. There was a mock bombardment, and vast numbers of people collected in the road to enjoy the sport. Dr. Godfrey was disguised in an opera hat and a huge coat, but the witnesses all knew the doctor well, and could identify him.

Procuration having been made in court for Dr. John Bletherhasset Godfrey three times, and no answer having been returned,

Mr. Yardley fined him 40s. and costs, and, in default of payment, 14 days' imprisonment.

ADULTERATED FLOUR.—A poor woman, named Thompson, came before Mr. Yardley, at the Thames police court, on Tuesday, and stated that she purchased a quarter of flour of a corn chandler and flour dealer in the neighbourhood of the Whitechapel Road, and made two puddings with a portion of it, of which her husband, herself, and two children partook. They were all attacked directly afterwards with severe illness, and she was obliged to call in medical assistance. She attributed the illness of herself and family to the bad quality of the flour, which was adulterated. She knew that, because her youngest child, who had not partaken of the puddings, was not ill, while all those who had partaken of them were violently affected. She had shown the flour to a medical gentleman, and it was adulterated, and such vile stuff that he would not swallow a mouthful of it for 5s. She had also taken the flour to Dr. Lettaby, the medical officer of the City of London, and lecturer on chemistry at the London Hospital, who said he had no doubt it was bad flour, but declined to analyse it until he received orders to do so from a magistrate.

The Magistrate said a more serious offence than selling adulterated flour could not be committed. He would write a letter to Dr. Lettaby, requesting him to analyse the flour, and report the result, and, if necessary, proceedings should be taken to punish the vendor.

A police-constable said that several families who had partaken of dumplings and puddings made with flour bought at the same shop, had been attacked with the same illness, and attributed it to the same cause.

ASSAULT AND ROBBERY.—Cases of highway robbery, with violence, are growing more frequent. On Monday, John Butler, stated to be a ticket-of-leave soldier, was charged with being concerned with a man and woman, not in custody, in violently assaulting and robbing Mr. Charles Beden, a commercial traveller, residing in Bethnal Green Road.

The prosecutor stated that between eight and nine o'clock on the evening of Wednesday night, he had arrived within a few yards of his residence, when he heard the sound of footsteps advancing rapidly behind him, and at the same moment he received a stunning blow on the back of the head, which knocked him to the road. Before he recovered, two men, one of whom he recognised as the prisoner, seized him by the collar of his coat, and dragged him across the road, where they were joined by a woman, who commenced rifling his pockets, while they held him down. Having abstracted his purse, they dispersed in different directions. The robbery was committed in broad daylight, and in the presence of several persons, who were apparently so preoccupied at the daring nature of the attack that they were unable to render any assistance.

Mr. Thomas Button, a shoemaker in the neighbourhood, deposed to his having seen the prisoner and another man dogging the steps of the prosecutor until he had almost reached his door, when they suddenly attacked him in the manner described, and before he had time to interfere they had made off.

The prisoner had contrived to elude pursuit since the time of the robbery, but, after a persevering search, he was traced out and taken into custody.

The prisoner, who declared that the witnesses were entirely mistaken in his identity, was remanded.

THE MAN IN POSSESSION.—Mr. Joseph Jacobs was charged on Monday, at the Mansion House, with having assaulted John Adams, porter to an auctioneer. The complainant, a very indispensible specimen of the men placed in possession by brokers, said, with unceasing emphasis, that he had been put in possession of a tavern in Aldgate for a debt to a large amount, and that the defendant, who was in the coffee-room with two other gentlemen, ordered him out in the most peremptory manner, and then struck him, without having received the slightest provocation.

It was proved, however, that complainant, who had been in possession several days, had exercised his authority in the most insolent manner, very much to the disgust of the gentlemen who frequented the room; that, dirty and brutal as he was in person and manner, he walked into the coffee-room with a pipe in his mouth, and his hat on the side of his head; that, upon being expostulated with, he said he would turn all the company out, as he was the master of the house; and that he called the father of the defendant a gray-headed old scoundrel.

The Lord Mayor said it must be admitted that the complainant had a right to go into any room in the house, but his Lordship was not aware that such conduct as had been described was sanctioned by any law to which an unfortunate debtor was subjected, and dismissed the case, very much to the satisfaction of the court.

LOW WAGES AND LOW MORALITY.—William Edwards, a young man between nineteen and twenty years of age, but employed as a "boy" at a bookbinder's printing office, Beaufort Buildings, Strand, was charged at Bow Street with stealing a quantity of printer's leads. The prisoner was detected offering the leads for sale at a marine shop. He at once admitted that he had stolen them from his employers, and said he was driven to it by the insufficiency of his wages. It appeared that, being employed as a boy, he was paid boy's wages—i.e., a week. He was described as "a very intelligent lad."

The Magistrate observed that it was no wonder he should steal. The prisoner was a man to all intents and purposes, and it was impossible for him to live upon so small a sum.

Mr. Birtles, overseer at Beaufort House, said that the prisoner himself not only offered to take the place, with a full knowledge of what the wages were, but begged very hard to be employed, saying that he was destitute. In fact he (Mr. Birtles) engaged him more "out of charity" than from any other motive.

The Magistrate did not at all intend to blame Mr. Birtles, or to imply that the low wages justified the prisoner in stealing to make up the deficiency. He was quite old enough to know what he was doing, and if he entered into a contract to work for less wages than he could live upon, it was his own act, done of his own free will, and he must not add to his wages by robbing his employer. He must be committed for one month.

DANIEL SWIFT.—A colour-sergeant of the 7th Regiment, or Royal Welsh Fusiliers, has absconded from the camp at Aldershot, stealing £70 in gold and silver belonging to the regiment. He is described to be about thirty years of age, five feet seven inches, and has a large bushy whisker and moustache.

AN EMPLOYEE OF THE WESTERN RAILWAY.—has been arrested at Versailles, on a charge of having embezzled 72,000 francs belonging to the company.

CHILDREN MURDERS.—Two girls, nine and ten years old, were begging in the village of Drahitzin, in Bohemia, on the 28th ult., when they met another little girl, Johanna W., only seven years of age. She was prettily dressed, as she belonged to parents of a superior station in the world. The vagrant children coveted her handsome clothes, and enticed her, by the promise of a new doll, to the edge of a pond, into which, after having stripped the poor little thing, they pushed her, and she was drowned. They took her clothes and went on, but were taken into custody by the gendarmes that same day for menancy, and were sent back to the town of Schlesin, whence they had come. A handkerchief, which had belonged to the murdered child, was worn by one of them; and when accused of the crime, they confessed it.

MURDER AT BROADWINDSOR.

ELIZABETH MARTHA BROWN was indicted at Dorchester on Monday, before Mr. Sergeant Channell, for the wilful murder of John Anthony Brown, her husband, at Broadwindsor.

It appeared that the prisoner and the deceased were formerly fellow-servants on a farm. An intimacy sprang up between them, and, although he was only nineteen, and the prisoner forty, they were married about five years ago. The deceased then became a carrier, and was, in consequence, frequently from home, and there was reason to believe that the prisoner was jealous of her husband. On the 5th of July the deceased went with his horse and cart with another man, also with a horse and cart, to Beaminster, a distance of about seven miles. On the road they saw Mary Davis, the woman of whom the prisoner was jealous, and she walked some short way with them. The men left Beaminster on their return home about four o'clock in the afternoon, but called at a public house on their road, where they remained drinking and playing at skittles until midnight. They then left the public-house and proceeded onward until they came to a division of the road, where the deceased and his friend parted, each going towards his own home. About two o'clock in the morning a woman, named Knight, who lived close to the gate of the field in which the deceased kept his horse, heard footsteps, which she believed to be those of the deceased, going past her house. She had previously heard the gate of the field slam, and a noise as of a horse eating the grass. A Mrs. Frampton, who lived some distance off, heard screams between two and three o'clock in the morning, proceeding in a direction from Brown's house. All was then quiet until five o'clock in the morning, when the prisoner called up a person named Damon, who lived some 130 yards off. He immediately got up and went to Brown's house, and in an inner room he found Brown lying on the floor on his right side; blood was flowing freely from his head, and his hair was covered with brains and blood. He was dead. The prisoner was standing by; he asked her how it happened. She said she had heard a noise outside the house, and she opened the door, and found her husband—he was bleeding very much. He said, "The horse." She carried him along the passage through the shop, and into this inner room. Damon asked her why she did not call him before. She said her husband had laid hold of her dress, and she could not get away from him until he became weak and faint, and then she pushed him back, and he fell on the ground. Damon examined the body, but there was no blood on the bosom of his shirt. There was no blood in the passage or in the room, except in the room where the body was lying; there was no blood in the road leading from the field, nor were there any marks of any struggle. The field gate was 137 yards from the house. His hat was close to the gate, as if it had been placed there, and did not appear as if it had fallen off. A halter was hanging on the rail of the gate. Other persons were then called up and went to the house. The deceased's head was tied up with a handkerchief.

The following evidence is very important:—

Richard William Broster—I am a surgeon at Beaminster, and have been in practice seven or eight years. I and another gentleman named Gilbert were requested to make a post-mortem examination of Brown. We did so on the Wednesday, in his house. The body was in a coffin, and was dressed for interment. There was a wound over the right eyebrow, dividing the integument, but the bone was not fractured there; that commenced at the eye, and ran upwards and outwards. The bones of the nose were broken. There was a small wound at the root of the nose, which had driven in the inner angle of the orbit. There was a wound a little above the left eyebrow, triangular, through which the bone protruded. The integument was separated from the bone, leaving the triangular bone protruding. At the side of the left eye, a little behind, was a wound running up and down about an inch in length. The open surface of the integument was about a quarter of an inch. Passing backwards over the head, rather at the top of the head, there was another triangular wound, through which the bone protruded. It was about an inch at its base. It was a little bent in on one side, coming up to an angle. Behind that was a wound passing from before, backwards, not triangular. On the top of the head there was another three-cornered wound. Quite at the back of the head there was another wound that was divided into two. The left ear was perforated, and behind it a long wound divided into two. It did not gape above a quarter of an inch, and it was rather more than an inch long. We removed the integument from the skull, and found the frontal bone fractured on the left side, extending above the middle of the orbit upwards and backwards across the parietal bone, and extending into the occipital bone from an inch to an inch and a half. The frontal bone was separated from the parietal about half an inch. I then removed seven pieces of bone that were driven in on the brain, varying in size from about half an inch to three inches. I then removed the brain, and at the back of the head, at the lower part of the brain, there was a large quantity of blood that had been clotted. The plexus of the brain was very much inflamed. The forefinger of the left hand was bruised, but whether it was an old or new bruise I could not say. Either of the wounds I have described would cause death. The kind I have mentioned would. The small wound at the root of the nose, the one behind the triangular wound, or the one behind the ear would. Such wounds would have caused a great flow of blood. Presuming the deceased to have received the injuries in the field, he could not have gone home without a considerable loss of blood over the face and over the front of his person. I presume he could not have gone that distance without leaving traces of blood on the road. The wound in the nose would have bled freely. Supposing he was assisted into the house by his wife, as she stated, I should think there would be marks of blood, unless her clothes caught it. If he had received the injuries in the field, my opinion is he could not have reached his home—he must have been totally paralysed. That must necessarily and immediately have been the effect of the injuries. I believe there are three wounds that would incapacitate him from going that distance. All the wounds being there, a person would not have been able to speak afterwards. Under the three wounds the brain was so damaged that he could not have lived afterwards. I have been in court during the trial. The deceased could not have held the prisoner as stated two hours after receiving the wounds. He would have been dead.

By the Judge—There might have been a death grip, but he must have had power previously to grasp her.

Examination continued—After receiving the wound, he would not have power to grasp so. The wounds were not such as would be occasioned by the kick of a horse; one of them might have been produced by the kick of a horse, but they were not at all like what would be caused by the kick of a horse; they were such as might have been produced by a blunt instrument, such as the back of a hatchet; striking sideways with the back of a hatchet would produce a three-cornered wound—such as he had described.

Cross-examined—I have never been present when a skull was fractured; I do not know that I have ever seen wounds caused by the kick of a horse, or by the back of a hatchet; a flat iron or a poker that had an angular edge would cause such wounds; I have seen about half a dozen fractures of the skull; I have seen a patient breathe afterwards, but not conscious; sometimes when there has been a fracture of the skull persons have lived years afterwards. The wound behind the ear, I should think, would cause death. The piece of bone was driven into the brain, and deceased could not have walked after receiving that. There are two other wounds that would prevent him from walking. Witness was also examined on some extraordinary instances of recovery after the bone of the head had been severely fractured. I looked at the horse's shoes; one was in two pieces. I came to the conclusion that they would not produce the wounds—certainly not. I believe the man was dead immediately after receiving the wounds.

Joachim Gilbert—I live at Beaminster. I have been in practice thirty-two years. In company with the last witness I made a post-mortem examination of Brown. I have heard his account of the wounds; I agree with him, and come to the same conclusions. I know there have been remarkable instances of portions of the substance of the brain having been lost, and the person recovering, but in this case it is morally impossible. The temporal bone was driven in half an inch. I know there are cases in which the bone had been driven in and the person afterwards recovered. When there is a pressure of bone on the brain and a portion of the brain escapes, it sometimes affords relief. There was one of the wounds at the top of the head in which I put my finger at least an inch. It was impossible for this and the others to exist without a tremendous shedding of blood.

Mr. Edwards addressed the jury on behalf of the prisoner, urging upon them that the death might have been caused by the kick of the horse, or that some person might have inflicted the blows, but that it was most improbable the wife should have done the mischief, as she depended on her husband for her living.

Mr. Sergeant Channell having summed up, the jury retired at six o'clock. They were sent for at ten o'clock, and they then said they wished to ask some questions of the medical man. Mr. Gilbert was then sent for, and, in answer to questions put to him by the jury, said that had the post-mortem examination taken place earlier the appearances would have been the same, and that it would have been impossible for the man, after having been so dreadfully wounded, to get into the inner room, even with the assistance of the wife.

The jury upon this found the prisoner guilty, and sentence of death was passed upon her, the Judge stating that he concurred in the verdict.

RE-APPEARANCE OF PALMER IN A TREE.—It will hardly be believed that thousands of persons have, during the past week, crowded a certain road in the village of Melting, near Ormskirk, to inspect a sycamore tree which has burst its bark, the sap protruding in a shape resembling a man's head. Rumour spread abroad that it was the re-appearance of Palmer, who "had come again, because he was buried without a coffin!" Some ills in the neighbourhood have done none the worse for this visitation from the world beyond.

BARON ALDERSON AND HIS WITNESSES.—The iteration of witness-box and jury-box in the Crown Court at Worcester was the object of Mr. Baron Alderson's special obtrusion. He said, "Gentlemen of the Jury—If I had a telescope, I might see you; and if I had a trumpet, I might speak to you. You look as if you were congregated together in a cheese-toaster—I never saw anything so ugly in my life. We shall never have a court properly constructed till we try two or three architects in courts of their own building, where they can see and hear nothing."

RE-APPEARANCE OF A WELL-KNOWN IMPOSTOR.

The notorious imposter, who, under the assumed names of Mary Eliza Smith, Matilda Tremaine, Mary Eliza Chippendale, and other aliases, has for years infested the country, has appeared again about Canterbury and the neighbouring towns. At the latter end of February she was discharged from prison, and immediately made her way to Rochester, to renew her old practices. She called upon a widow, named Nugent, in Troy-town, Rochester, under the pretence of searching for an old servant who had been nine years in the service of her "papa;" she represented him as a gentleman residing at Canterbury, adding that she had run away from her home in consequence of the ill-treatment of her stepmother, her father having married his former cook. The sympathies of the kind-hearted widow were immediately enlisted in the imposter's favour, and she at once got access to the house as a Miss Field. The widow had kept a small school—she now transferred her scholars to "poor Miss Field," whose ill-usage and superior abilities soon became the subject of conversation in the place, and the school increased from six to forty six scholars. She regularly visited the various chapels in the neighbourhood, in hopes of finding the old servant, who belonged to a "Reformer's chapel," and invariably brought home the leading points of the discourses, with which she professed herself very much pleased, as her mind had been long unsettled on the subject of religion. After remaining with Mrs. Nugent five months, the imposter left last Saturday week, under the pretence of paying a visit to the Rev. Mr. Medcalf, at Canterbury, and taking with her the child of her widowess benefactress. She was to return on the following Monday, but has not yet found her way back to Rochester. The poor widow has been almost distracted at the loss of her child, and has visited Canterbury and other parts of the country in search of the worthless woman. The child (a girl) is five years of age, and answers to the name of Eliza Nugent. She is rather pretty, and was dressed in black, with a black satin mantle, and a broad-brimmed hat trimmed with ermine. They had with them a carpet-bag, with the figure of Paul Pry on either side. From inquiry, it appears that "Mary Eliza" arrived in Canterbury on Monday, after leaving Rochester on the Saturday, and remained there till Wednesday, as "Mrs. Nugent," when she left with the child. She was next heard of at Herne Bay, where, on Sunday last, she fell down in a fit, at the door of a Mr. Watson, and was carried into the passage, where restoratives were administered to her. The fit was well feigned, and completely answered her purpose. On coming to, she said she was going to London, having absconded from her husband in consequence of his brutal treatment of herself and child, in proof of which she pointed to the marks of blows on the child's eye and back. She also stated that she had married her father's footman against his will. She had friends in Belgrave Square, who would kindly receive her. She attributed her fit to mental anxiety and the fatigue of a long walk. Assistance was readily given her, a lodgings was provided, and the next day this arrant swindler, with the poor widow's child, was seen on board a steamer for London, the passage having been also paid for her. Nothing has since been heard of her whereabouts. She is short in stature, slight in figure, with gray eyes, brown hair, a fair complexion, with an occasional flush, a projecting under lip, and a hesitating manner in her speech, almost stammering. Her language and pronunciation are good, and she has been educated for a governess, and she has some knowledge of French and music. She is well versed in the arts of deception, having a remarkable command of countenance, and rarely exhibiting the slightest emotion. Her plan of operations is varied. At one time she is leaving the Protestant religion for the Church of Rome; at another, she is driven from home by the cruelty of her father, a Quaker, who is opposed to her marrying any one out of the sect. Then her father is a Baptist, now he is Lord Camoys, at one time she is a single woman, at others married, and endless are her assumed characters. She is well versed in religious topics. There is not a shade of opinion which she has not approved, and she can with diplomatic skill adapt herself to the sentiments of those with whom she converses, be he a priest of the Catholic church, the chaplain of a gaol, or a disciple of Joanna Southcott. She has been in prisons, penitentiaries, schools, and workhouses, and private houses in nearly all parts of the country, and she is well known to the Mendicity Society. For the sake of the poor widow, it is to be hoped she will soon be discovered.

THE MELTON MURDERS.—After the trial, on arriving at the gaol, Brown displayed considerable levity and carelessness, asking if he did not stand the trial like a man, and expressing his readiness to be hung on the day of trial, as he said was the custom in Van Diemen's Land. Since then, however, he has become more depressed in spirits. The execution was fixed for next Friday morning at eight o'clock. Calcraft was the executioner. A rather touching incident relating to the little boy who was murdered has reached us. It is reported that the poor little fellow always manifested a great dread of going to sleep with his grandfather, saying he was afraid he should be murdered some night. On the night preceding the murder he was particularly apprehensive, and his mother promised that if he would go that night, his sister should go the next night. The lad consented, but said if anything happened he would scream loudly, and be begged his mother, if she heard him, to come quickly to his assistance.

THE SPONDON MURDER.—On Monday last the inquest touching the death of Enoch Stone, who was so brutally murdered on the night of the 23rd ult., near Spondon, was resumed. The Coroner expressed his regret that all the efforts made to bring the charge home to the guilty party had been unavailing, and observed that it was not advisable longer to postpone the inquiry, their being, in his opinion, no evidence to eliminate the parties hitherto apprehended on suspicion, and no new circumstances likely to lead to the apprehension of the right man. The reward offered by Government, an incentive to exertion, would be, however, still in existence, and Sir H. Wilmot, who had taken great interest in the elucidation of the various facts connected with the case, would, in his magisterial capacity, be able to render assistance should any new evidence render a further examination necessary. The jury returned a verdict of "Wilful Murder against some person or persons unknown."

CONVICTION OF A STOCKBROKER.—James Ralton, a stockbroker, has been committed for trial for having feloniously aided, abetted, counselled, and procured a certain female, whose name is unknown, to do and commit a certain felony, by her committing, that is to say, to feloniously forge and utter a transfer of a certain share and interest in certain stock and annuities, to wit, five hundred pounds, part of a sum of five hundred and eight pounds one shilling, New Three per Cent. Consolidated Bank Annuities, then transferable at the Bank of England, and which said transfer purported to be made by one Eliza Potts, with intent thereby to defraud the Governor and Company of the Bank of England.

MR. SMITH O'BRIEN.—It is stated by the friends of Mr. Smith O'Brien that it is his positive determination to resist all attempts to induce him to take part in the political affairs of this country, as he has made up his mind to attend henceforward solely to the duties of a resident country gentleman. He is said to have been much struck with the social changes which have taken place in Ireland during the six or seven years of his absence, and he admits that the progress of improvement has been much more rapid than could have been anticipated by the most sanguine expectants of the Irish millennium.

ATTACK ON A ROMAN CATHOLIC CLERGYMAN.—Rev. Mr. M'Kay, parish priest of Maran, county of Down, while returning home on Monday week, was beaten very badly by a body of men, said to be Orangemen, within a short distance of his house. The injuries sustained by the Rev. Gentleman are said to be very dangerous.

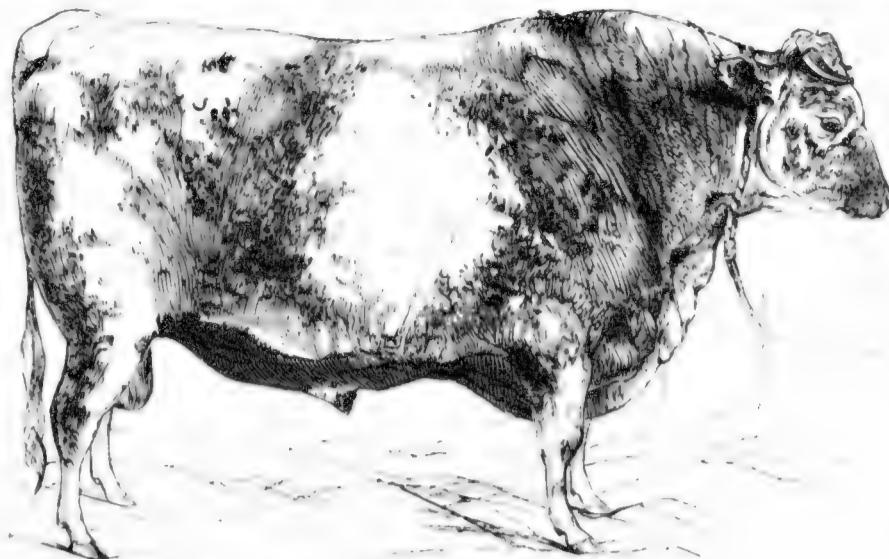
THE SADLER CONSPIRACY.—The commission for the South Riding of the county of Tipperary was opened the other day at Clonmel by Mr. Justice Moore. After his Lordship had delivered his charge the grand jury retired, and shortly after brought in a bill against James Sadler for conspiracy to defraud the depositors and English shareholders in the Tipperary Joint-Stock Bank. It is believed that Sadler cannot have been long an absentee from Ireland, and for these reasons:—It was only lately that a large amount of his costly furniture was conveyed through Carlow in floats to Dublin. There was not great secrecy observed, as it was ostentatiously announced that the seven huge floats contained the household furniture belonging to the head of the bank, James Sadler, and it was with equal certainty announced that the bird had flown only within a very recent period. With the sum of £250,000, drawn out of the coffers of the bank, it is not uncharitably surmised that the Hon. Member for Tipperary did not retire empty-handed from the busy scenes of public life. Several candidates for the seat of the Hon. Member have announced themselves.

THE TIPPERARY BANK.—The Master of the Rolls has made an order in the Tipperary Bank case, the effect of which will be to leave matters as they are until November next, when the main question of appointing a receiver, and withdrawing the affairs of the bank from the operation of the Winding up Act, will be heard before the Lord Chancellor.

ROYAL AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY'S EXHIBITION AT CHELMSFORD.

INTERESTING as were the numerous novel implements of agriculture with which the show-yard at Chelmsford was crowded, the cattle department was nevertheless the great object of attraction both to amateur and professional agriculturalists. The Iulies, too, who assembled in great force, bestowed all their admiration on the living specimens, and with them the short-horns appeared to be especial favourites. In this class Colonel Towneley's magnificent roan bull "Master Butterfly" took the first prize, which he had also received at the Paris meeting; and the bull for which Mr. Ambler took the second was sire to the yearling, which gained a prize at the Paris Exhibition. Nothing is more extraordinary than the way in which the market value of short-horn cattle has been maintained and increased of late years. To American demand Australian has now given a decided preference, and large purchases were effected on that account.

Mr. Towneley's prize bull, "Master Butterfly," was bought by Mr. Bradford, for Australia, for the hitherto unknown sum of 1,200 guineas, and it appears that the demand on account of France and Australia for animals of a certain class in this breed far exceeded the existing supply, so that prices in other instances than that just quoted were almost equally remarkable. Breeders in other classes, too, had no reason to complain of indifference in buyers. Mr. Ambler sold his first prize bull calf for £200, and for older animals

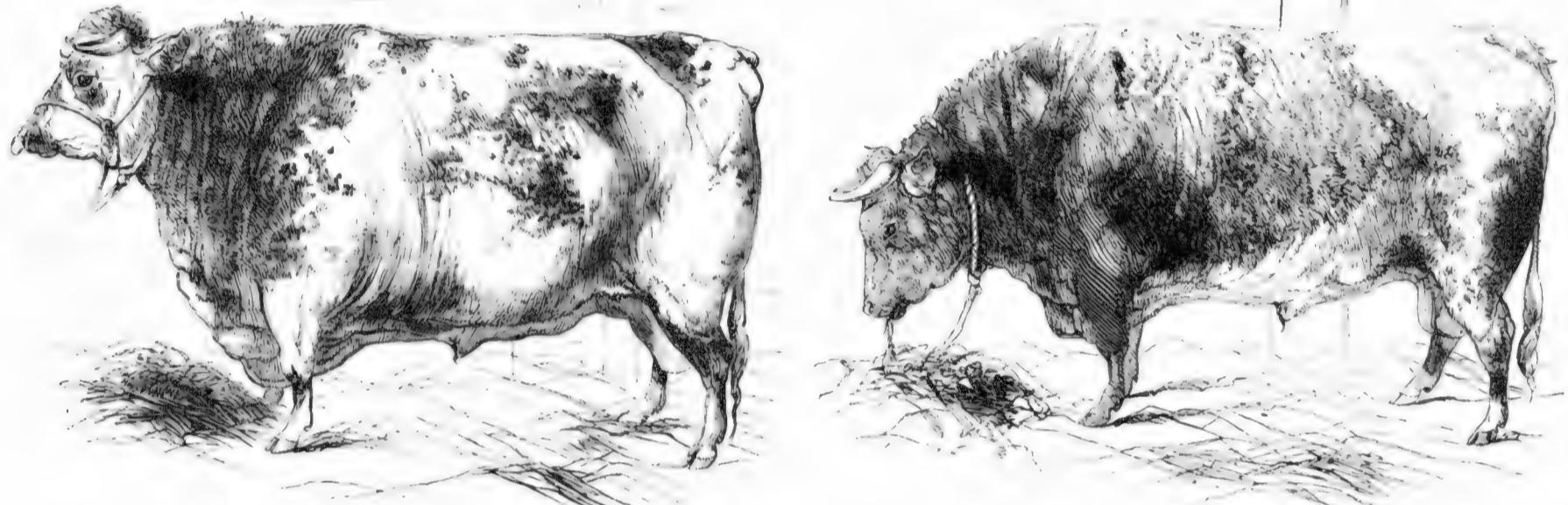


COLONEL TOWNELEY'S SHORT-HORNED BULL, "MASTER BUTTERFLY," £200 PRIZE.

The show of horses was remarkable and good, and was distinguished from previous exhibitions of the kind by a spirited competition for the prizes offered by the local society for thoroughbred hackneys and hunters. In horses for agricultural purposes, notwithstanding the great preponderance of the Suffolk breed as to number, and also as to value, the first prize for cart horses was won by a Clydesdale horse, the property of the Queen's Consort.

The remarkable feature in the show of sheep was the number and quality of the Southdown breed exhibited. Lord Walsingham's prize rams were remarkable for their size as well as excellence. The first and second prize Southdown ewes, were sold for twenty guineas and seven guineas each respectively. There appears to have been some considerable difference of opinion as to the awards in the class of Southdown sheep. It was asserted, on one side, that not only

the rams, but the ewes, were the best in the room. James Webster, and while on one side it was contended that the office of judge had not in this case been confined to men of experience, especially in that particular breed on which their judgment was desired, on the other hand it was replied that the prize sheep of Mr. Orvman, about which the discussion mainly arose, had only recently been distinguished by the award of judges, experienced Southdown breeders, while the general excellence



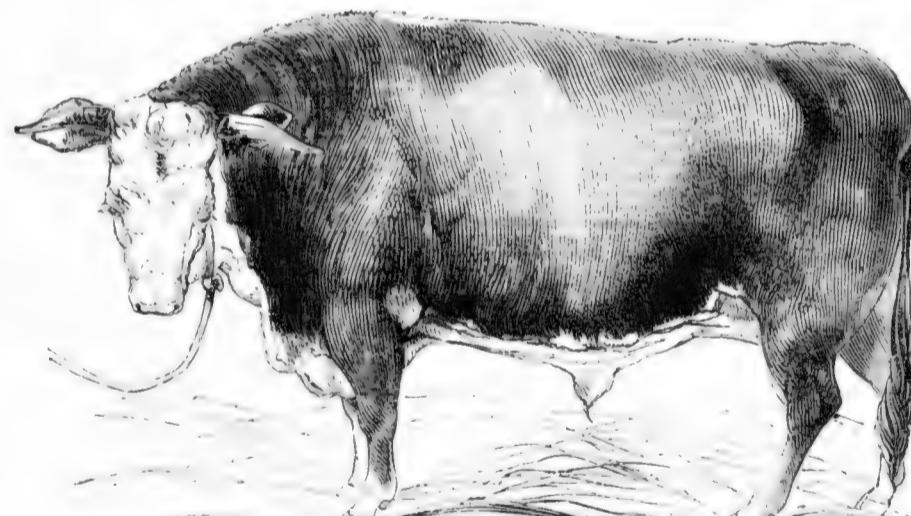
SHORT-HORNED BULLS.

higher prices were offered than have previously been recorded in the history of the breed.

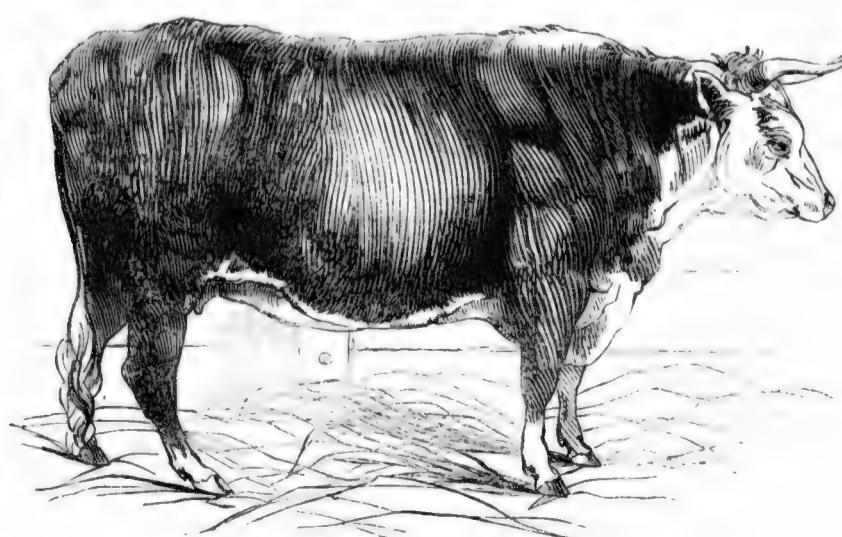
The yearling heifer shown by Mr. Booth, which received the first prize in its class, was a beautiful animal. Herefords were tolerably well represented, considering their distance from the county, and so also were the Devons. In the latter class we missed Lord Leicester's stock. Most of the names, however, of our noted breeders were to be found upon the Devon prize-list.

Prince Albert took the first prize for yearling bulls, bred by Mr. G. Turner, of Barton, who also figured favourably among the prizeholders. Mr. Quarterly took the first prize for old bulls; and Messrs. Farthing, Halse, and Hole, all well-known names in Devonshire, received awards.

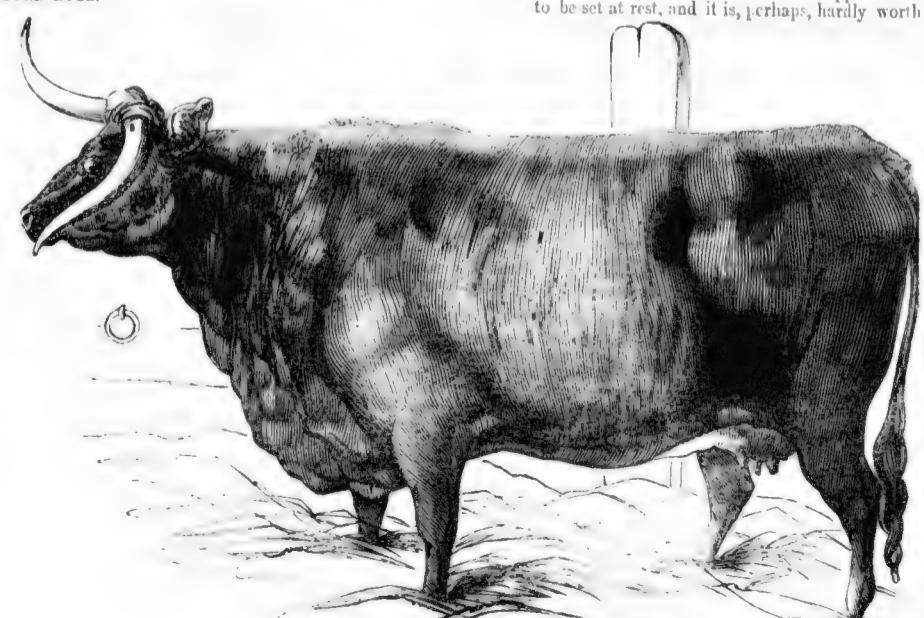
A novelty in this exhibition was the class of prizes offered for foreign stock. Although examples of these were not brought forward in any great number, which indeed was hardly likely, considering the small prizes offered compared with the munificent encouragement which it was in the power of a government, as in the case of the exhibition at Paris, to bestow. The small Bretonne race, somewhat like our breed in the Shetland Islands, the large Normandy black and white dairy stock, and the magnificent white Charolaise breed, were all present, though not particularly numerous. The last, more especially, merited the notice of English farmers. With the figure and colour of the short-horn, the latter breed specimens of this race might well pass muster in an English show.



HEREFORD BULL.



HEREFORD HEIFER.



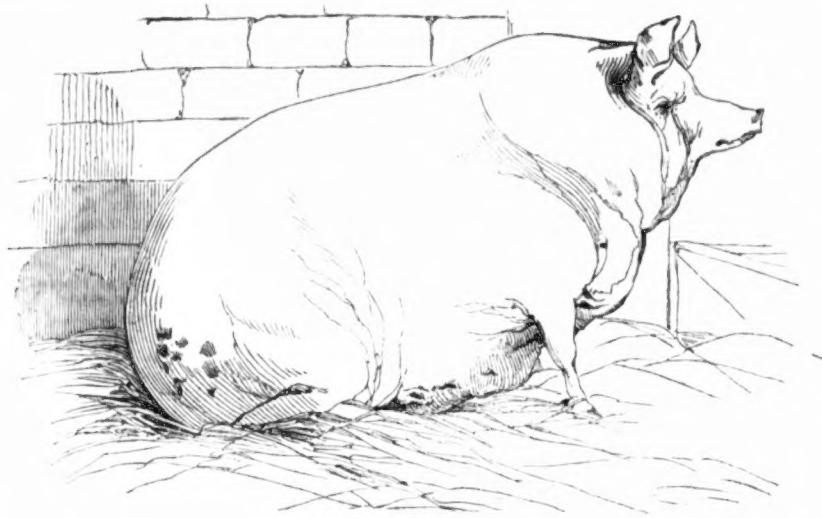
LONG-HORNED COW.

of the flock was attested by the high price—fifty-sixty, and eighty guineas, for which, in three separate instances, sheep shown at this exhibition had been disposed of. It is remarkable that none of the prizes go this year into Sussex, where the breed probably still retains its finest quality; the increased size attained elsewhere is inevitably to some extent accompanied by loss of quality. The show of Leicester and of long-woollen sheep was but small.

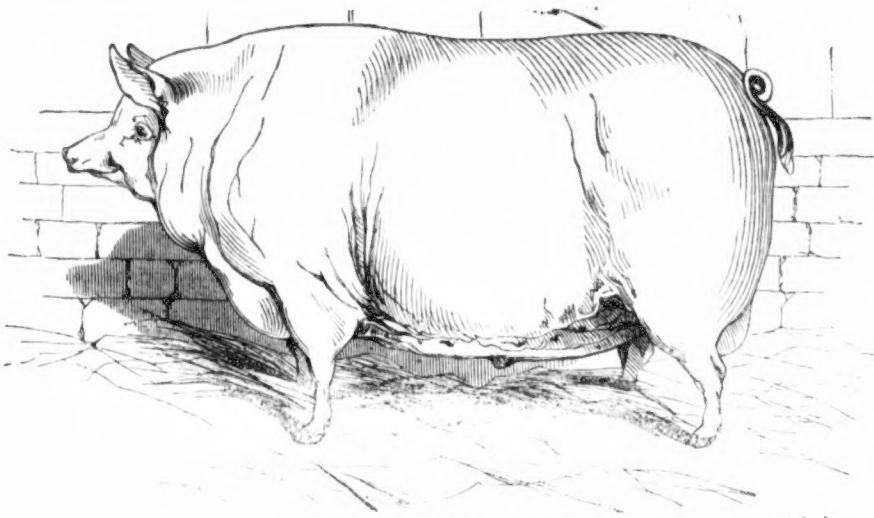
The show of pigs was remarkably good, and in this class the determination to procure good stock was equally operative on prices, and the prize sow, bred by Mr. H. Scott Hayward, of Fotheringay, was sold for thirty-five guineas.

The poultry show was of unusual excellence in the Dorking and Cochin classes—precisely those which in the interest of the public and the farmer's wife should be encouraged. The great object of the poultry keeper and the poultry-consuming public is to obtain good birds fit for table early in the season. Now, Cochins lay through winter, Dorkings not till spring. Keep both sorts; and the one will provide you, first, with eggs for winter consumption, and then with brood hens ready to sit on the very first eggs that the others lay, so that from these, the best breed in the world for the table, you will procure birds of the very best quality fit for the table at the very earliest period.

The question of the "condition" in which breeding stock should be exhibited appears now to be set at rest, and it is, perhaps, hardly worth



LEICESTER SOW.



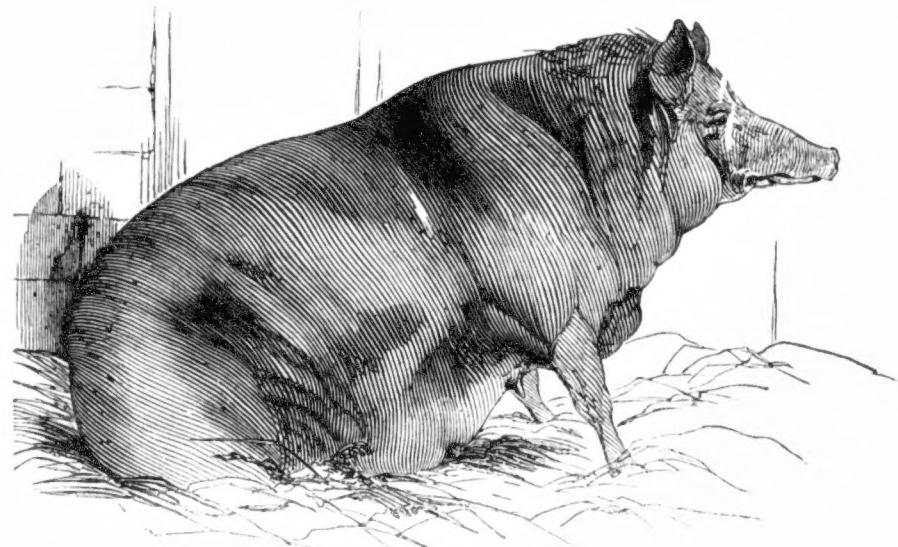
BOAR OF THE 'SMALL' BREED.

while disturbing it. The evil of excessive fatness seems to be in a great measure correcting itself, for though observable at the present exhibition in several of the Herefords among cattle, and in the Leicester and long-woolled among sheep, yet it was not, as it has been, generally characteristic of the show; and a protest on the subject—for so it may have been intended—such as Lord Rayleigh's Devon cows and heifers presented, was hardly necessary.

The members of the Society present at the meeting, and a considerable number of the visitors, dined together on the evening of Thursday, last week, in the large pavilion erected for that purpose within the showyard. There could scarcely have been less than 1,000 persons present. Lord Portman, the retiring President of the Society for the year, occupied the chair, supported among others by the Duke of Richmond, Lord Walsingham, Lord Faversham, and the Earl of Sheffield.

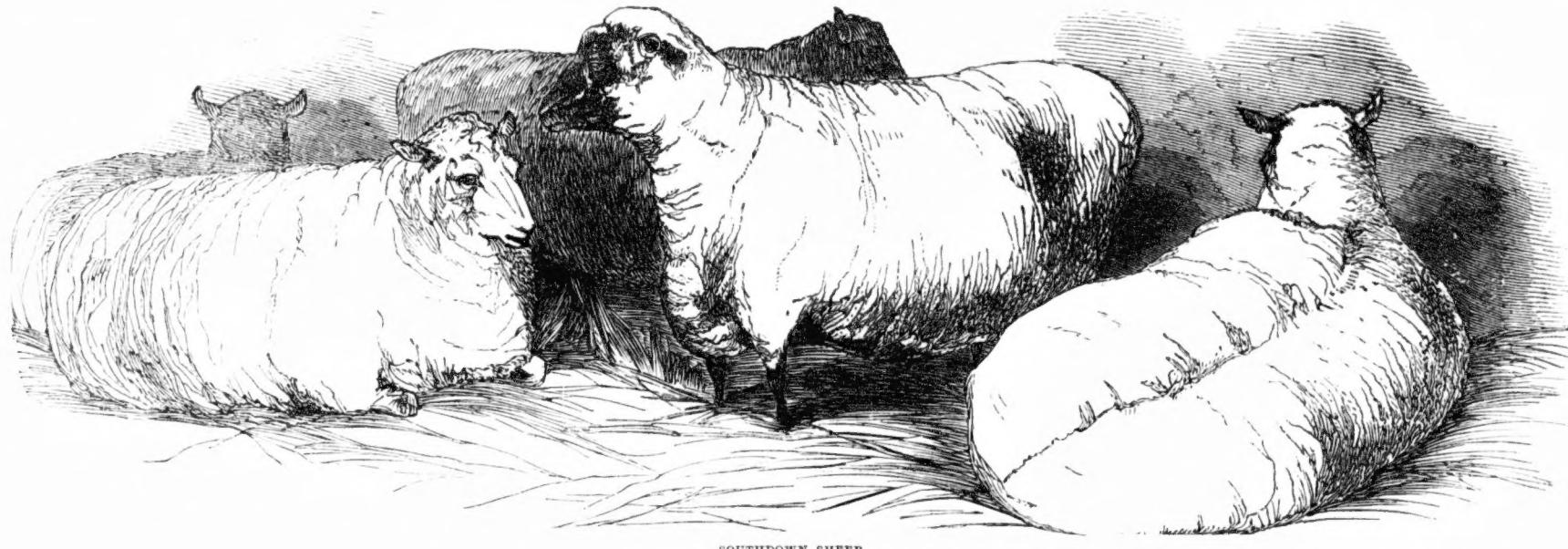
On the removal of the cloth, the usual loyal and constitutional toasts were drunk.

Mr. J. E. Denison, in proposing the toast of the "Agricultural Societies at Home and Abroad," said he wished to include in one line the whole family of farmers all over the world, and to drink success to all, in every place, engaged in the promotion of agriculture, the most important and the most honourable of industries. This toast was peculiarly appropriate to the present moment. This year, beyond all years which had preceded it, had been marked by the freest communication and the most extended

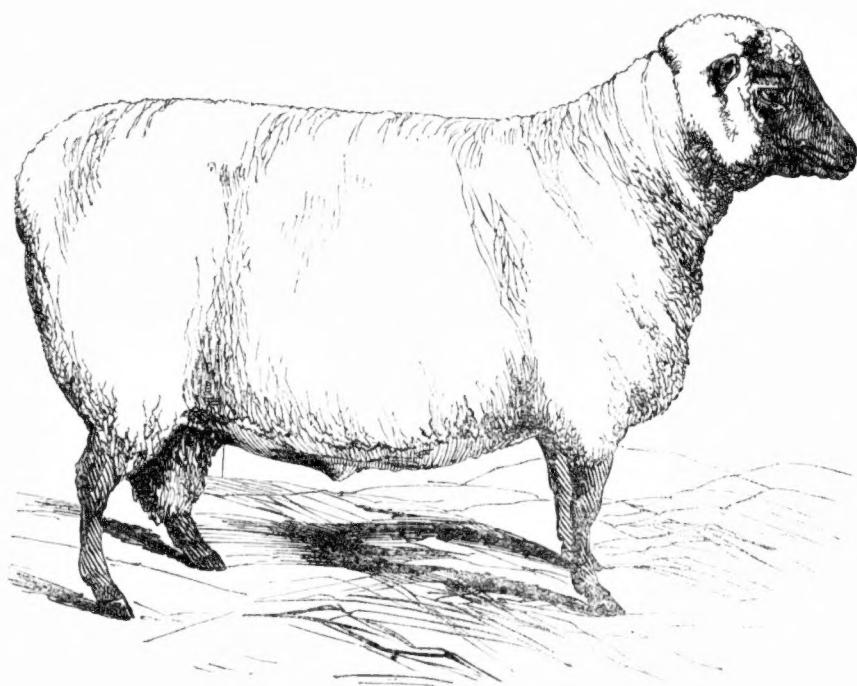


BOAR OF THE LARGE BREED.

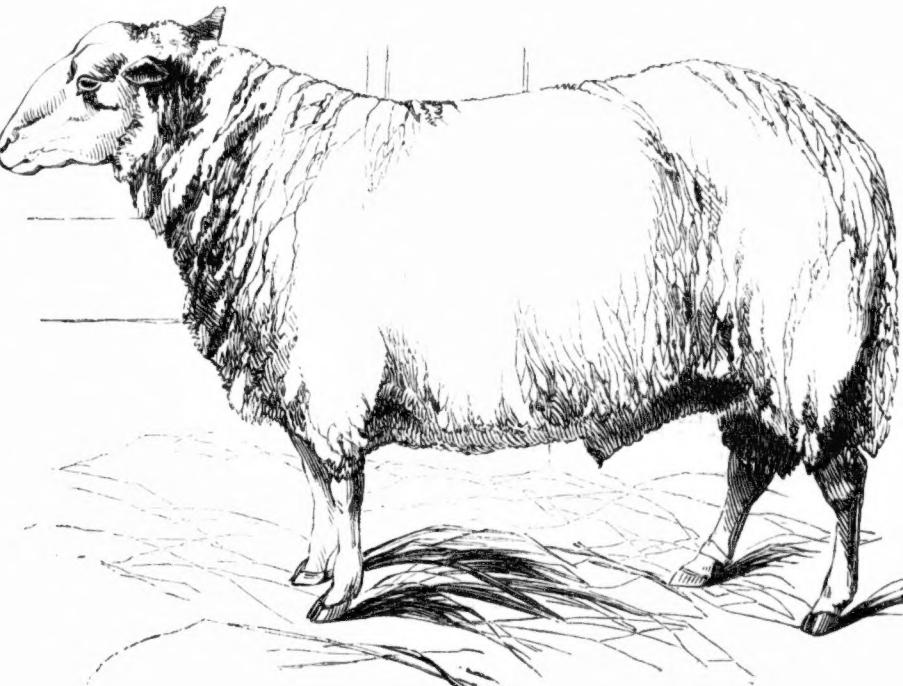
intercourse among farmers. He referred, of course, especially to the great meeting at Paris, a magnificent spectacle, and worthy of the nation which inaugurated it. This society had no pretensions to rival the taste of France, or to compete with the resources of an empire. They were a society of farmers doing their own work without state assistance, and there was only a rustic show. (A laugh.) They attempted to rival their neighbours only in the warmth of their friendly reception and in the sincerity of their cordial greeting. He would venture one criticism on the Paris show, admirable in all points, deficient only in one. He regretted the absence of horses from the show, for the draught horses of France were excellent, and of great activity and power. The weights transported in France on a pair of high wheels far surpassed anything that we could accomplish. If horses had been included in the show, commerce would have instantly sprung up. Those who sold their cattle and their sheep would have purchased horses, and reciprocity between the two countries would have been established. He hoped the French Government would correct this omission in the list of their prizes for next year. One word also to his own countrymen. The country was worthily represented at the Paris Exhibition in all classes of live stock from Mr. Towneley's bull, the victor in so many contests, downwards through all classes; but in the articles of products there was great neglect. The President of the Class of Products said to him—"I thought you made cheeses in England, where are your cheeses?" Five gold medals and twenty-two silver medals were given for cheeses. There was only one single English cheese at Paris, and that was called "Cheddar, and was said to have come from Scotland. He hoped that omission would be supplied next year.



SOUTHDOWN SHEEP.



SOUTHDOWN RAM.



CHEVIOT RAM.

If he mistook not, there were some cheeses in England that might compare with Gruyère, and some counties in England that would be able to give a good account of the silver, ay, and of the gold medals of the Emperor. One of his friends on the jury lamented the absence of all specimens of our English beverages. There was no beer exhibited—a laugh)—no porter; and that gentleman thought, with a spirit of perhaps audacious boldness, that pale ale might show its face by the side of rosé wine. (Laughter.) He would say, then, Success to all societies engaged in the promotion of agriculture, especially of those whose delegates had honoured the society with their presence to-day—of France, of Belgium, of Holland, of Switzerland. They wished success to them all. They had no jealousies. Their work was the work of peace and goodwill—to give abundance to men and true strength to nations. (Cheers.)

M. Gareau, one of the French commissioners, responded to the compliment. He expressed the pleasure he experienced in seeing so many members of this society in attendance on the recent show at Paris; he hoped they would return next year to witness a similar exhibition; and he could assure them that, when they came, he and those with whom he co-operated would do what in their lay to repay the hospitality they had received in England.

M. de Trebonnais then rose to propose the toast of the evening. He said—

speaking in excellent English—My lords and gentlemen, a task has devolved upon me which, from the consciousness of my own weakness, I was at first led to decline. But the thought that prompted this choice appeared to me so fraught with that sweet spirit of hospitality which characterizes so eminent a degree the British agriculturists, that I could not resist the appeal. It was an honour to me—an honour to the country I represent—a honour paid to the agricultural interests of the world. Gentlemen, this society is called Royal, not only because Royalty has bestowed upon it a gracious patronage. It is Royal, indeed, because it is truly great, powerful, majestic, and imposing. It is Royal because it stands alone, sitting as it were on a throne, displaying a peaceful sceptre, a hand of justice, like the king of old, bestowing rewards on merit and persevering skill, upholding and uplifting the worthy, encouraging the fallen, directing the inquirer, and inspiring all with sentiments of gratitude, exultation, and triumph. (Cheers.)

It is Royal, gentlemen, because it raises from the green and beseem of this beautiful isle, a lofty beacon conspicuous to all the world, like a star in heaven, and unfurling abroad a glorious standard, having for its heraldry that most appropriate symbol of civilization—the plough; and for a device the simple, but deeply suggestive motto, “Science with Practice.” (Cheers.) A queen, indeed, is our country; a majesty of the British farmstake, a queen of the English harvest field, the pride of this country, and the boast of Englishmen. (Cheers.) We are convened here on one of her court days. This is a levee which she holds; not, indeed, in gorgeous palaces, where floors are so slippery, and where also, so many trip and fall—(a laugh)—but under the frail canvas canopy of her she is arrayed on the green sward of an Essex field. And see what a throng of courtiers she has assembled to pay her homage, and what an array of tributes have been gathered to her honour. Nature has sent her contributions of the noblest form in which animal life can be enclosed; engineering skill has sent the most ingenious machines that the inventive powers of man have ever created. Yonder, the last few days, a formidable array of fifty steam engines have been keeping up a roaring concert, not very harmonious to the ear, perhaps, but how thrilling to the mind. It might be expected of me that I should say something of the progress of this society—that I should record the difficulties it has had to encounter, and extol its highest deeds; but I forbear, lest I should weary your attention. Is it not through its instrumentality that the breeds of England, her systems of husbandry, and her application of science to practice, have been made conspicuous to all the world, and attracted the notice of thoughtful men of all nations? Therefore, it is with confidence, more in your own appreciation of its merits than in my humble power to set them forth, that I call upon you all, whatever may be your nation, and whatever the station of life in which you may be placed, upstanding as before a majesty, to fetch from the inmost recesses of your hearts a thrilling shout, and exclaim, “Hail! and success to the Royal Agricultural Society of England!” (Cheers.)

Lord Walsingham, in a complimentary speech, then gave “the President of the Society,” which was drunk with acclamation.

The Chairman, in reply, said they had been pleased for the second time to place him in that high position. He regarded this meeting as a very successful one. He thought he had a right to say they had a very good exhibition of implements, and an equally good one in the stock-yard. He might venture to go further, and say they had a very good exhibition in that room. After adverturing for a moment to the changes which the construction and application of the plough had undergone within the last fifty years, the Noble Lord proceeded to say that, within the last few days, they had seen a new element applied to its propulsion. He was not yet prepared to say that the mode of ploughing by steam was perfect; but at no distant day he looked forward to seeing, on the level parts of England, not in others, some such instrument as those which had been on this occasion exhibited, ploughing their fields. (Cheers.) He then glanced cursorily at the improvements made in preparing agricultural produce for the market, the application of artificial manures in stimulating the productive capacity of the land, and the extent to which recourse was now had to draining, and the adoption of a better system of “rests” and rotation of crops. With a great many men, he added, practice and science were regarded as two different things, but he contended they were one and the same. Practice and science were not theory against experience, but the combination of both. It was the man of experience who knew how to farm, and he was the man who combined science, or knowledge, with practice and experience. (Cheers.)

Sir J. Paxton, D.P., proposed, in appropriate terms, the toast of “the distinguished foreigners present,” which was drunk with enthusiasm.

The Marquis de Vogué, in responding to the compliment, said all that he had seen had convinced him that foreigners had yet much to do to follow the example of the English in all that they had already attained by the powerful combination of capital and labour. In France, agricultural capital was scarce and lazy. He spoke of capital, not of men. Their labourers and soldiers in France were of the same breed; and the English well knew, from recent experience, of what material the French army was composed. (Cheers.) He should say, when he returned home, that England was not only a land of luxuriant crops, magnificent cattle, well-reared labour, paternal landlords, and faithful tenants—the envied land of freedom and everlasting constitutional liberty—but also the land of kind reception and courteous hospitality to strangers. (Cheers.)

Some other toasts having been drunk, the Chairman gave “The Health of the Emperor and Empress of the French,” which was drunk with enthusiasm, and with that the proceedings terminated, and the company separated shortly before eight o'clock.

At ten o'clock on Friday morning, Lord Portman closed his year of office as president of the society, by distributing, in the Shire Hall, the several prizes awarded to the successful competitors for foreign stock, including M. Allier, M. Eluard, M. Philippe, M. Cheradame, the Comte de Bouillé, and M. Dutrôle. In addition to the money value of the prizes, a gold medal was given by the society to M. Eugène Tisserand, the French commissioner, and to each of the three foreign jurors, M. Gareau, M. de Villiers Pit, and M. de Gingins d'Eclamps; while a silver medal was at the same time presented to each of the successful exhibitors of continental stock. His Lordship intimated that this was a new feature in the proceedings of the society, and that in the introduction of it on this occasion they had followed the good example set by the Emperor of the French, in offering prizes for foreign stock.

With this ceremony, the meeting of the society at Chelmsford, which was in every respect an interesting one, may be said to have terminated.

THE FLOWER SHOW.

The Flower Show, which had long been the subject of anticipation by its numerous patrons in town and country, opened on Wednesday, during the week of the Agricultural Exhibition, in anything but a cheering manner, owing to the inauspicious state of the weather. Fortunately, however, the result was of a highly popular and gratifying character. The show was held in a large dome-shaped tent in the centre, 80 feet in diameter, and 40 feet in height, with four others diverging from it. Flags and banners were interspersed around the tents, while innumerable flags floated outside, the Royal standard surmounting the central pavilion.

At two o'clock the band of the 2nd Life Guards having taken up its position in the circular tent, announced by a burst of charming music that the show had commenced; and on entering the visitor found himself amongst some of the most gorgeous productions of nature. Here lovely orchids, magnificent roses, graceful fuchsias, handsome gloxinias, brilliant achimenes, delicate heaths, and the united sweetness of a thousand blossoms, were displayed in mingled profusion, with luxuriant collections of the choicest fruits. Conspicuous amongst the floral treasures was a large and magnificent collection of stove and greenhouse plants, nursed to the highest state of perfection, and grouped together with the happiest effect. In this class ten valuable plants of Messrs. Fraser, of Lee Bridge, obtained the first prize, and attracted the greatest attention. The Cape heaths were abundant, and of great variety, which contributed much to the extent and beauty of the show. The rose appeared in all its exquisite combination of perfume, form, and colour, and seemed to have the greatest homage paid to its charms by the host of admirers who gathered round its lengthened stands. There was a large and magnificent display of this “queen” of flowers by various growers of note, but the grand stand of twenty-four varieties exhibited by Messrs. Paul and Son, of Cheshunt, eclipsed all competitors. But, after all, the stands which seemed to excite the greatest attention were those

where were grouped the magnificent variety of orchids—natives of many climes—some of which hung down in graceful festoons, combining all that is brilliant in colour with singularity of formation. Of this curious and beautiful class of flowers—a novel feature in provincial shows—Mr. Banney of Stratford, Mr. Robert Parker of Islington, Mr. Woolley of Cheshunt, and Mr. R. Warner of Broomfield, were the principal exhibitors. There was a superb display of gloxinias, including some new specimens. The pelargoniums were in numerous and brilliant variety, and included in the display of variegated scarlet specimens some fine plants of the “Golden Chain,” “Mountain of Light,” “Flower of the Day,” and “Brilliant.” There were a number of remarkably fine and well-grown fuchsias, and a delightful display of achimenes, whose brilliant tints and soft velvety-looking leaves were objects of considerable attraction. Messrs. Saltmarsh of Chelmsford, exhibited some noble specimens of this flower, as well as an admirable display of petunias. The exotic ferns, in all the innumerable varieties of that now popular tribe, and the lycopodiums had numerous admirers. The specimens of cut flowers consisted principally of roses, calceolarias, geraniums, verbenas, and hardy herbaceous plants, in brilliant profusion.

Several beautiful designs for landscape or model gardens were exhibited.

Amongst the natural specimens were exhibited some very beautiful groups of wax flowers, which elicited richly merited commendation for the taste and skill displayed in their execution by the fair artizans.

Eminently conspicuous amongst the treasures of Pomona were magnificent vines, laden with luscious clusters of Muscat and black Hambur' grapes, which hung in tempting profusion. Delicious peaches, nectarines, and cherries, tinged with a ruby hue, and endowed with an exquisite flavour, peeped through their polished foliage, “like the fair Hesperian tree laden with blooming gold;” whilst numerous dishes of the most exquisite melons, pines, strawberries, and grapes, that ever refreshed the palate, diffused around a general fragrance.

THE TIPTREE HALL GATHERING.

MANY years have passed since Mr. Meehi first began to make fertile a barren patch of heath around Tiptree Hall. Not a few have gone by, moreover, since he invited a body of scientific agriculturists and personal friends to inspect his processes and witness their results. These invitations were renewed annually; and on Saturday last the gathering for 1856 came off with more than ordinary eclat. The company mustered in greater number than, we believe, in any former year, and included a large detachment of members of the London corporation and other City magnates, whom Mr. Meehi, as Sheriff-elect, had included in his list of guests.

The system introduced with so much enterprise and perseverance by the proprietor of Tiptree Hall, has already attained, perhaps, its full development. Some few novelties, in the way of mechanism or manipulation, have been added to the establishment since this time twelvemonth; but the principal features remain unchanged. The results of the “high farming” this year seem likely to prove much better than the average of former harvests. The crops look heavier than usual, and the stock fatter and sleeker. Moreover, Mr. Meehi promises to show a satisfactory balance-sheet, which must satisfy those old-world agriculturalists, who, finding it impossible to deny that “high-farming” produces fine crops, take refuge in the assertion that they are never fine enough to pay their expenses.

AN AMERICAN DIVER'S STORY.—A submarine diver from Buffalo, says the American journals, has at last succeeded in raising the safe of the American Express Company, which was lost when the steamer Atlantic was sunk off Long Point in 1852. It will be recollect that this steamer was instantly sunk by collision with a propeller, and that a large number of passengers were lost. The diver was protected by copper armour, and was under water forty minutes, during which time he had some strange adventures. The upper deck of the steamer lies 160 feet under water, and far below where there is any current or motion. Everything, therefore, is exactly as they first went down. When the diver alighted upon the deck he was exulted by a beautiful lady, whose clothing was well arranged, and her hair elegantly dressed. As he approached her the motion of the water caused an oscillation of the head, as if gracefully bowing to him. She was standing erect, with one hand grasping the rigging. Around lay the bodies of several others, as it sleeping. Children holding their friends by their hands, and mothers with their babes in their arms were there. In the cabin the furniture was still untouched by decay, and to all appearance had just been arranged by some careful hand. In the office he found the safe, and was enabled to move it with ease; he took it upon deck, where the grapping irons were fastened on, and the prize brought safely to the surface. Upon opening the safe it displayed its contents in a perfect state of preservation. There was in the safe 5,000 dols. in gold, 3,500 dols. in bills of the Government Stock Bank, and a large amount of bills on other banks, amounting in all to about 36,000 dols. The papers were uninjured, except that they smelt as if they had law for so many years in a coffin with their owner. Of course, all this money goes to the persons interested in the adventure.

CHARGE OF ATTEMPTING TO SCUTTLE A SHIP.—On Saturday, at the Police Court, Liverpool, Robert Towns, second mate of the ship John Lynn, was brought up charged with attempting to scuttle the said ship while at sea. The John Lynn, which is a large, fine vessel, trading between Liverpool and Akyab, in the Bay of Bengal, left that port for the Mersey on the 22nd of February. On arriving out, she was as tight and staunch as when she left Liverpool; but while loading at Akyab, she commenced making water to the extent of four inches an hour. She continued to make more water, until, from being a tight ship, she made water from seven to fourteen or fifteen inches an hour. But the most incomprensible part of the circumstance was, that the water would sometimes suddenly subside. The vessel had to put into Pernambuco. The ship was surveyed, and a part of the cargo was discharged, and transhipped, at great expense. It was here discovered that two or three holes had been bored in the ship, which seemed recently to have been plugged up with new plugs. No suspicion up to this time rested on the prisoner. From circumstances which afterwards transpired, the prisoner was suspected of being privy to this attempt to scuttle the ship, if not actually the person who had bored the holes; and the captain had him placed in irons. These facts were proved by Captain Henry Owen and Alfred Vaughan, first officer, who stated that the prisoner had told him that the voyage was too short to pay, and that the captain ought to continue the voyage and run the risk of sinking the ship. John Norman, a seaman, gave corroborative evidence. John Wyld, an apprentice, said he was in the second mate's watch. Soon after the ship left Akyab, the mate would frequently leave him on the poop, and be absent for an hour at a time, during the night. He told him, if the captain came, to say he had gone to the “head.” This was shortly before the leakage was discovered. The inquiry was adjourned.

OMNIBUS THIEVES.—It seems that of all the varieties of the genus “flat,” there is none so soon hooked by a London sharper as a genuine no-Povery man, and that the season he is in the finest condition is during the May meetings. It is stated in the “Quarterly Review,” in an article entitled “Thieves and Police,” that if these people escape the hustle on the hall stairs, they are waited on with more attention in the omnibus. They lodge or visit for the short period of their sojourn in town, either of Islington, Clapham, or Camberwell, and the conveyances are followed by the fraternity as certainly as a sick ship in the tropics is followed by the sharks. Omnibus are generally worked by a man and a woman. The woman seats herself on the right-hand side of the most respectable-looking female passenger she can see, and the man, if possible, takes a place opposite. He stares the victim out of countenance, and while confused by his impertinence, the “pall,” by the aid of a cloak thrown over her arm, or, if a man, by passing his hand through the pocket of his cloak, made open on the inside for the purpose, is able to rifle her pockets at leisure. If the victim be a middle aged or elderly lady, her attention is engaged in conversation while the clearing out process is going on; the trick done, the confederates get out at the first convenient opportunity. Lately, the run of the thieves seems to be chiefly in the direction of church, where they go, prayer-book in hand, and plunder almost with impunity. It is remarked that the dress of the females is perfect enough; but with them, as with most members of the swell mob, the finish is entirely on the outside. They have scarcely any education, and the moment they open their lips they betray themselves. The shoplifters are thus frequently convicted out of their own mouths, as in the instance of a lady-like female, not long ago, asking for some “wallenians,” which caused her to be watched, and presently she was detected secreting a card of valuable lace. It also appears that the extent of pilfering carried on by ladies of rank and position is very great. There are persons possessing a nainia of this kind so well known among the shop-keeping community, that their addresses and descriptions are passed from hand to hand for mutual security. The attendants allow them to secrete what they like without seeming to observe them, and afterwards send a bill, with the price of the goods purloined, to their houses.

REMODELING OF HORSEMONGER LANE JAIL.—The remodelling of Horsemonger Lane Jail is projected. At a special meeting of the magistrates for the county of Surrey, held on Monday, a report was presented from the committee appointed to consider the propriety of building a new and commodious prison for the county, or of remodelling the present prison in Horsemonger Lane. The committee stated that they had decided it was unnecessary to build a new jail, and they recommended that a sum of £12,000 be voted for the purpose of remodelling Horsemonger Lane Jail; the amount to be paid by instalments from the county rate in thirty years. After some discussion, in the course of which it was stated that a new jail would cost £50,000, the report was unanimously adopted.

DID THE ANCIENTS SMOKE?

THE question as to whether smoking was known to the ancients has just been started in Germany by the publication of a drawing contained in the “Recueil des Antiquités Suisses” of Baron de Bonstetten, which represents two objects in clay, which the author expressly declares to be smoking pipes. The authors of the “History of the Canton of the Grisons” had already spoken of these objects, but had classified them among the instruments made use of by the soothsayers. The Abbé Cochet, in his work on “Subterranean Normandy,” mentions having found similar articles, either whole or in fragments, in the Roman necropolis near Dieppe, which he at first considered as belonging to the seventeenth century, or perhaps to the time of Henry III. and Henry IV. The Abbé, however, afterwards changed his opinion on reading the work of Mr. Coldingham Bruce, entitled “The Roman Well,” in which the author asks the question, whether the pipes discovered at Pierre Bridge, in Northumberland, and in London, at places where Roman stations were known to have existed, belonged to the Romans. Mr. Wilson, in his “Archaeology of Scotland,” states that tobacco was only introduced as a superior kind of narcotic, and that hemp was already known to the ancients as a sedative. The pipes found in Scotland by Mr. Wilson might have served for use this latter substance. M. Wechter, in his “Celtic Monuments of Hanover,” says that clay pipes from six to eight inches in length had been found in tombs at Osnabrück, which proved that the ancients smoked. M. Keterstein, in his “Celtic Antiquities,” boldly declares that the Celts smoked. Klemm, in his “History of Christian Europe,” states that the smoking of intoxicating plants was known to the Scythians and Africans long before the introduction of tobacco into Europe. Herodotus, in speaking of the Scythians, does not go quite so far, but mentions that the people spread hemp seed on red-hot stones, and inhaled the vapour sent forth. It is, therefore, thought by Baron de Bonstetten that the pipes of which he gives the drawing were used before the introduction of tobacco into Europe.

DESTRUCTIVE FIRES.—On the night of Friday week, a fire, which did damage to the amount of many thousand pounds, took place at the Shad Thames Flour Mills, at the side of Horsleydown Canal, and extending to Shad Thames. The building formed a conspicuous object, from its great height, and had a chimney shaft nearly 120 feet high. At the time of the disaster the mill was in full work, and several of the workmen were engaged in the place, when some one cried out, “Escape with your lives; the mill is on fire.” They then saw flames in the first floor warehouse, in which a large stock in trade was deposited. The engines and the powerful steam-boat arrived in rapid succession, but by the time this force could be set to work the fire had extended completely through the mill, and the flames at the same moment played round the lofty chimney shaft, until at length they ignited two or three vessels lying in the river, as well as the manure stores of Mr. M. Duckitt, whose premises extend round those of the mill, and there soon appeared no chance of saving any portion of the extensive oil works adjoining. Some hours elapsed before the fire was subdued, and the damage done is estimated at £40,000.—Another fire took place on Friday evening week. It commenced in the premises belonging to Mr. Limmingo, cabinet maker, in the City Road. Owing to the inflammable character of the stock, the flames soon seized upon the timber in the spacious premises belonging to Mr. Cross, timber merchant, and various other houses surrounding, firing in succession some two or three of the roofs. The engines having arrived, they were set to work; but the fire could not be extinguished until several tons of pounds' weight of property had also been consumed. The sufferers were insured.—On Sunday morning, at an early hour, a fire broke out on the premises of Messrs. Hemmings and Co., portable church and house builders, Tredegar Road Bow. The premises occupy a large space of ground, and contain a great number of portable houses, intended for exportation. There was a good supply of water, but owing to the inflammable character of the buildings and stock, the fire was not got under until a considerable amount of property had been destroyed. The following is Mr. Bradwood's report:—“Four houses used as stores, and a large quantity of finished work destroyed. The corrugating houses adjoining damaged by fire.”

FATAL COLLIERY EXPLOSION.—An explosion of fire damp occurred in the Stratford Main Colliery, Stanborough, near Barnsley, belonging to Messrs. Smith, Carr, and Smith, on Saturday afternoon, just as the men were leaving work, owing to the negligence of the two persons who were fortunately the only victims of the accident. Most of the hands had got out of the pit, when a man named George Ward, aged thirty-eight, and a lad named William Griffiths, aged seventeen, a son of one of the managers of the pit, inadvertently took a lighted candle into a “bunk” to search for some metal rats. The flame immediately came into contact with some foul air, which is supposed to have been liberated by the falling in of a portion of the roof a day or two previously, and a loud explosion ensued. Ward was killed on the spot, and his body presented a shocking maimed appearance. Griffiths escaped death, but was very seriously injured, being much confused about his head and other parts of his body; one leg was also broken. The effects of the explosion were confined to the vicinity of the “bunk” in which it originated, or the loss of life would have been considerable.

FATAL ACCIDENT AT INELIAN.—On Monday night, a small yacht, while passing Inelian, capsized, and two young gentlemen, whose names are unknown, but who are understood to belong to Glasgow, were drowned. It seems, from the statement of John McGubbin, a Grouse boatman who accompanied them and who was saved, that they had sailed in the morning from Grouse bay, and proceeded as far as Port Rannatine. They were on their way back, and, while opposite Inelian, and running before a slight breeze, a squall was seen passing along the water, and she was observed to go down instantly, nothing being attributed to the boatman, to which the boatman was clinging, and the gentleman's caps, one of them being a dark mixture and the other a shepherd plaid and both being lined with silk. The boatman states that he does not know either of the gentlemen, having been engaged by them only for the day.

FATAL ACCIDENT.—On Sunday night last Dr. John Calthorpe Williams, of Nottingham, was returning in his carriage from Willington Hall, the seat of Lord Middleton, after dining with his Lordship, and when near the town the horse became restive. The coachman cautioned the doctor to remain quiet; the unfortunate gentleman was, however, pitched out of the carriage, and, falling upon his head, was fearfully bruised. On Monday night he died. Dr. Williams was a man of eminence in his profession, and author of a valuable work on the sight. He was physician to the Notts Lunatic Asylum, and was highly esteemed.

JALOUSY.—An old man, seventy years of age, formerly an office porter, and his wife, who was two years older, who lived for some years in a small house in one of the faubourgs of Vienna, were missed by the neighbours, but it was supposed that they had gone on a pilgrimage. Their son called to see them; and as he found that a strong smell emanated from the house, he had the door forced open. The old woman was there found lying in her bed, covered with wounds, and a hatchet stained with blood showed that she had been murdered with it; the man was hanging dead by the neck to a hook near the window. A sealed letter was found on the table, and in it the old man declared that he had murdered his wife from jealousy.

DIED OF THE INCOME-TAX.—Last week, a farmer at Horfield set off to London's Gate, to appeal against his assessment. While waiting his turn there, he was suddenly taken ill, and died in half an hour. At the inquest, the deceased's son said his father very much dreaded the Income-tax Commissioners, and, as it was near his turn to make his appeal, it was thought that he must have worked himself into such a state of excitement as to accelerate his death. The verdict was that he died from disease of the heart.

REBEL STUDENTS.—There has been a sort of émeute among the Burschenschaft Heidelberg University. A student of divinity fancying himself insulted by his professor, demanded, but was refused, satisfaction, and so set to work and thrashed the pedagogue. The senate consequently condemned him to expulsion during two years. Thereupon, as customary, all the Burschenschaften held a solemn comitiat, and some two hundred escorted the offender to the railway station at Landenburg. Here a row took place, which ended in a general onslaught between the people and students, who were not armed, and who at length withdrew without serious damage to Heidelberg. On reaching that place, they drew up before the pro-rector's house, and gave three cheers for “academic liberty,” and then dispersed. Reports of this disturbance having been forwarded to Calisruhe, a battalion of infantry was sent to prevent a renewal of uproar, and to suppress the university authorities in publishing and carrying out a decree, whereby all the student “corps” are abolished, and the wearing of national cockades and other symbols forbidden in perpetuity, under penalty of arrest and expulsion. Further, all prominent members of these “corps,” who may have committed offences against disciplinary or other rules previously, are ordered to be arrested or expelled, and to quit the University within six hours. All meetings of students are forbidden, under similar penalties. The “corps” have dissolved themselves for the time being, but have threatened to migrate in mass.

TUMULT AT FLORENCE.—A letter from Florence, of the 5th, in the “Argomento Gazette,” says: “Yesterday during the funeral procession of the late Archbishop, a sudden tumult arose among a dense crowd assembled to witness the ceremony. Whether it was caused by the arrest of some pickpockets, or by persons desirous of creating a disturbance, is not known; certain it is that it created a general panic. People were seen running away on all sides, or seeking shelter in the doorways, while the crash of window-glasses added to the noise and confusion. Those who formed part of the procession were seized with the same panic, and made their escape as well as they could. At length the police and military restored something like order, and the body was conveyed to the cathedral, where it was interred. Several persons were wounded in the affray, and some have since been arrested.”

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